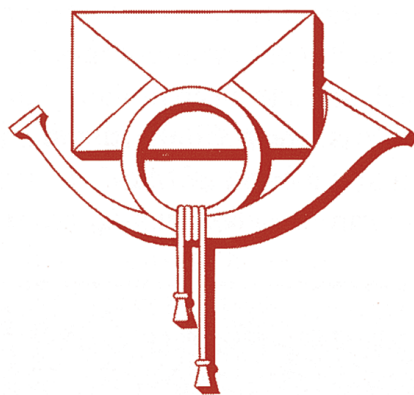


Postal History Journal



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Africa to Europe Air Mail 1961-1973

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The U.S. Zone Improvement Plan

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Oregon Statehood Centennial

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U.S. APOs in Casablanca from 1942

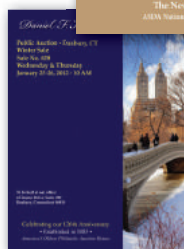
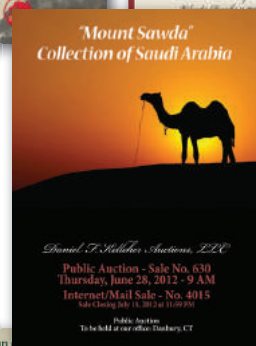
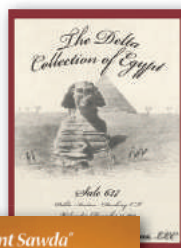
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Mormon Post Offices in Southern Alberta, Canada

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1961–1973 Air Mail from Tanganyika and Tanzania to Europe: Inferring Rates from a Census of Postal Covers

by David M. Frye

Introduction

After a long and complex history as part of German East Africa and then as a colony in British East Africa, Tanganyika became an independent nation on December 9, 1961. The new country preserved the British monetary system, denominating its postage stamps in shillings and cents, and issued its first set of postage stamps on its day of independence. Continuing through 1967, Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda jointly operated the East African Posts and Telecommunications Administration, which shared responsibilities for postal matters.¹ On April 26, 1964, the United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar was formed. Renamed the United Republic of Tanzania on October 29, 1964, the country issued the first postage stamps of Tanzania on December 9, 1965, the fourth anniversary of independence. The country's second set of definitive stamps, featuring fish, was released on December 9, 1967. Postal covers from this period that use these definitive issues are not particularly difficult to find, nor are they particularly expensive to acquire. With patience and diligence, a postal historian can accumulate a sizeable collection of covers.

Making references to rate tables marks the typical method for interpreting the connections among the origins, destinations, frankings, postmarks, auxiliary markings, and services reflected on postal covers. These resources, constructed of information gathered from government announcements and bulletins, typically provide the beginning dates of postal rates, rates for various destinations, and charges for basic and supplemental postal services. Thus, for instance, one can refer to a resource summarizing surface and air mail rates by weight to destinations in the United States from 1950 to 1971.² More detailed summaries exist for Tanganyika's colonial period³ than for its post-independence period. One researcher has noted that the raw material for constructing rate tables for post-independence Tanganyika and Tanzania resides in relatively inaccessible microfilm repositories of government publications.⁴

In the absence of accessible and comprehensive summaries of the dates, destinations, services, rates, and weights for post-independence Tanganyika and Tanzania, a census of covers, from which a reasonably detailed summary can be extracted, can serve as the foundation upon which to begin building a comprehensive summary of the details of Tanzania's post-independence postal services. Because the focus of this paper is to propose and demonstrate a methodology for building this summary reference, the census will focus a portion of the country's postal services: air mail from Tanganyika and Tanzania to European destinations from December 19, 1961 to May 3 1973. These dates come from the earliest and latest mailing dates of covers in the census and represent the period that begins soon after Tanganyika's independence and ends several months before Tanzania issued its second set of definitive stamps in December 1973. The beginning date of the census could be advanced ten days to span Tanganyika's postal services from their inception. The ending date is arbitrary, although it occurs late enough in 1973 to cover most of the postal activity that occurred before the issuance of the butterfly definitive series in December 1973. The census is restricted to air mail letters without additional services mailed to European destinations during the chosen period. Thus, the census does not include aerogrammes, postal

cards, parcels, printed matter, and supplemental services, such as registry fees. Additional study will focus on mail in these classes sent to other destinations.

This paper characterizes the postal covers comprising the census, presents a summary of the rates paid at each mailing date, extracts the basic rates from the tabular summaries, examines and explains the reasons for covers with franking rates that appear to break the proposed rate summaries, and presents suggestions for extending the census to determine additional details of the period's rate structure.

Method

An accumulation of covers bearing post-independence Tanganyika or Tanzania postage stamps was assembled. From this larger accumulation, 34 covers with destinations in European countries were selected for further analysis. All covers in this subset included discernable postmarks, intact franking, legible delivery addresses, and indications, either in the form of air mail envelopes or other auxiliary markings, that the senders intended to post the letters by air mail. Examination of each cover produced a census entry cataloguing the originating and destination addresses, destination continent, postmark date, auxiliary markings, total franking, and a list of the particular stamps appearing on the cover. From this larger set of data, the postmark date and total franking were selected for further analysis.

Results and Discussion

Of the 34 covers, 28 showed frankings between TZS 1/30 and TZS 1/50, where TZS is the recognized currency designation for Tanzanian shillings and the solidus (/) is the preferred separator between shillings and cents. An addition six covers displayed frankings between TZS 3/00 and TZS 5/20. Figure 1 depicts a summary of the frankings by date for the 34 covers mailed between December 19, 1961 and April 5, 1973. Figure 2 displays the cover in the census with the December 19, 1961 postmark date and stamps of four designs from the Uhuru (freedom) issue of December 9,1961.





Figure 2: Single-weight air mail letter. Tabora, Tanganyika, to Hamburg, Germany, 19 December 1961. Franked with TZS 1/30. Original: 151 mm x 88 mm.

Inspection of the frankings appearing in Figure 1 led to an initial conclusion that two air mail rates were used during the period. The first, TZS 1/30, appeared on 15 covers dated from December 19, 1961 to June 8, 1968. One cover, dated July 8, 1967, was franked with TZS 1/40. This cover was franked with a vertical strip of seven 20¢ stamps from Tanzania's first definitive series of December 9, 1965. One explanation for the total franking was that the sender willingly overpaid the prevailing air mail rate of TZS 1/30, using a conveniently available strip of stamps. The cover bearing the next most recent date, July 19, 1967, was, in turn, overfranked by 20¢. This cover originated from the same sender; thus, one can surmise that it, too, was knowingly overfranked. One additional cover, bearing postage totaling TZS 5/20, was postmarked on September 19, 1967, falling within this period. Because the postage rate charts for colonial Tanganyika air mail to all foreign destinations⁵ and Tanzanian air mail to the U.S.⁶ present rates that vary for each half ounce, it seems plausible to attribute the total franking on this cover to the letter weighing between 1.5 oz and 2.0 oz, thus requiring four times the 0.5 oz rate of TZS 1/30. Given these explanations and conclusions, the pattern of an air mail rate of TZS 1/30 from independence through at least 8 June 1968 seems reasonably clear.

The second portion of the presentation in Figure 1 presents 19 covers with postmark dates from November 18, 1969 to April 5, 1973. All but five of those covers were franked with TZS 1/50, indicating a revised air mail rate, presumably for the first 0.5 oz. Within the period spanned by these covers, two, with postmark dates of January 26, 1970 and April 5, 1973, were franked with TZS 4/50. Most probably these letters weighed between 1.0 oz and 1.5 oz, thus requiring three times the 0.5 oz rate of TZS 1/50. Figure 3 illustrates the earlier of these air mail covers bearing payment for three times the 0.5 oz air mail rate. A similar analysis of the three remaining covers franked with TZS 3/00 leads to the conclusion that they weighed between 0.5 oz and 1.0 oz, thus needed two times the 0.5 oz air mail rate of TZS 1/50.

Because the postmark dates of the last cover bearing the first air mail rate, June 8, 1968, and the first cover bearing the second air mail rate, November 18, 1969, covers a span of 17 months, the census does not determine the date of the rate change. It is worth noting, however, that a stamp, with a value of TZS 1/50, was issued in the fish definitive series on 15 September 1969. It seems reasonable to conclude that this issue was added to the series to accommodate a rate change and to replace, for air mail use, the existing

TZS 1/30 stamp in the series. Figure 3, depicts an air mail cover with a solo use of the TZS 1/50 issue in the fish definitive series.



Figure 3: Triple-weight air mail letter. Arusha, Tanzania, to Genova, Germany, January 26, 1970. Franked with TZS 4/50, three times the period’s second air mail rate per one-half ounce to European destinations. Original: 227 mm x 100 mm.

Figure 4: Single-weight air mail letter. Oyster Bay Branch Office, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, to Essex, England, 17 April 1973. Franked with the replacement air mail rate issue, valued at TZS 1/50. Original: 161 mm x 108 mm.



Table 1 presents the findings from this analysis of the information extracted from the census of postal cover in the period examined. European countries represented in the census include Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany (East and West), Great Britain, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, and Switzerland.

Table 1. Documented Air Mail Rates to Europe by Period and Weight

Destination	Period	Rate	Weight
Europe	19 December 1961–8 June 1968	TZS 1/30	per 0.5 oz
Europe	18 November 1969–5 April 1973	TZS 1/50	per 0.5 oz

If one assumes that the first air mail rate took effect on the date of Tanganyika’s independence, which was also the date of issue of its first stamps, and if one assumes, further, that the replacement rate stamp added to the fish definitive series indicated a rate change, then the periods can be adjusted slightly. Table 2 includes these adjustments, indicated with italics.

Table 2. Air Mail Rates to Europe by Adjusted Period and Weight

Destination	Period	Rate	Weight
Europe	9 December 1961–14 September 1969	TZS 1/30	per 0.5 oz
Europe	15 September 1969–(5 April 1973)	TZS 1/50	per 0.5 oz

It would be a great coincidence for the last cover in the census to have been mailed on the last day of the second rate, thus, in Table 2, that date, enclosed in parentheses, represents the last date appearing in the census and not the last date of the rate.

Conclusion

From the data gathered from this census of air mail covers sent from Tanganyika and Tanzania to European destinations, one can conclude that two distinct air mail rates saw post-independence use from December 1961 through at least April 1973. The covers with franking totaling other amounts explained either by voluntary overpayment or by letter weights that exceeded the basic weight increment.

The method presented demonstrated its capacity for visualizing cover census data and for aiding in the creation of proposed postal rate tables in the absence of readily available government sources for documenting those rates. Additional research to perform the same analysis for later periods, other classes of mail, and additional services will yield refinements and additions to the table of rates generated by this first-pass analysis. Examining additional covers with postmarks in September 1969 can provide a more accurate picture of the timing of the rate change.

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David M. Frye is an active member of the Lincoln Stamp Club in Lincoln, Nebraska, having designed the club's web site; managed exhibits and designed chacets for the LINPEX, the club's annual show; and produced the monthly newsletter, *The Souvenir Sheet*. He has attended APS Summer Seminar (2008), and presented at the Postal History Symposium (2012). He collects U.S. postal history of the 1960s, Germany, Tanzania, and the Vatican City. He is our Society's Publicity Chairman.

Zone Improvement Plan: The Story of Mr. Zip

by Alex Gill

Introduction

When Americans write a letter and address the envelope they take the ZIP code for granted and don't pause to consider its significance. Over the years, the United States Postal Service has undertaken multiple campaigns and marketing efforts to ensure faster delivery of the mail or to promote new products and services. One of the most successful campaigns was the ZIP code. The introduction of Mr. Zip, an attractive cartoon character, gave personality to the ZIP code and helped persuade a suspicious public to use a five-digit code at the end of mailing addresses. From 1963 to 1983, the memorable character of Mr. Zip became a popular and iconic figure in American culture and had a lasting effect on how mail was to be delivered. The story of the ZIP code is an interesting one and worth examining.

Early Origins

First, it should be noted that a zip code identifies each postal delivery area in the country. Secondly, the abbreviation "Z.I.P." stands for Zone Improvement Plan initiated by the then Post Office Department (POD). The idea of assigning numbers based on a location's geographic coordinates is not entirely new to the delivery of mail. Postal zoning dates as far back as World War II when the POD divided the country into zones to expedite delivery of the high volume of wartime mail. Post offices often had to hire inexperienced employees to handle the increase as more experienced workers went off to serve in the war. Between 1940 and 1943, annual mail volume increased from about 28 billion to about 33 billion pieces of mail (about.usps.com/who-we-are/postal-history/pieces-of-mail-since-1789.pdf). In 1943, zone numbers were issued to 124 of the country's largest urban areas, and individual districts within these urban areas were given one or two digit codes which were written as part of the address after the city name. The American public viewed these early "ZIP Codes" as a necessary addition to addresses to help deliver the mail faster and these codes both caught on quickly and lasted - for twenty years.

In the early 1960s several changes in the fabric of the country led to new developments in how mail was to be delivered, as well as complicating its delivery. First, during the economic prosperity of the 1950s and 1960s, population dispersion in the form of suburban development led to a major movement from city to suburbs. This was coupled with the population increase of the Baby Boomer generation, and resulted in broader mail delivery regions. Secondly, active business growth led to an increase in the volume of mail in the form of periodicals and advertisements. The rapid expansion in population and mail made the wartime system outdated. In 1962, Postmaster General James Edward Day stated that the system was unable to meet the increasing volumes of mail: between 1943 and 1962, annual mail volume doubled, growing from 33 billion pieces of mail to 66.5 billion. PMG Day also urged the importance of a new and more effective postal zoning system. In the summer of 1963, the Zone Improvement Plan (Z.I.P.) was first introduced to the public in a nationwide campaign, with the goal of reaching all households in the country and encouraging the general public to regularly use ZIP codes in all mailings.

Organizing mail delivery based on zones was not new to Mr. Zip. Prior to his debut, the design of Mr. Zip was originally used for similar purposes. In the 1950s, Harold

Wilcox, the son of a letter carrier and a member of the Cunningham & Walsh advertising agency, designed a cartoon of a postman delivering a letter. The character was briefly used by AT&T as “Mr. P.O. Zone.” In this role, the cartoon was to help advertise the need for the public to remember area codes for phone numbers. Unfortunately, this endeavor by AT&T was highly unsuccessful and unpopular; the idea was shelved and sold to the POD with a warning and good luck.

The POD made a series of changes to what was then “Mr. P.O. Zone” in an effort to introduce the use of the ZIP Code by advertising the importance of a mailer’s role in speeding up mail delivery. First, Miami based artist Joe Lawrence retooled the design by sharpening the limbs and torso and adding a mail bag. This revised cartoon figure was unveiled at a postmaster’s convention in 1962. The POD also believed that adding a personality to Mr. Zip would help spread the word to the general public about the importance of using ZIP Codes. Towards this goal, the POD had set up a Public Information Office dedicated to the implementation and workings of the Mr. Zip campaign. One of the goals of the office was to brainstorm a four-point plan that would help bring Mr. Zip to the general public: 1) introduction of Mr. Zip to postal employees, 2) National introduction of Mr. Zip through announcements and promotion, 3) supply of resources to local post offices to promote Mr. Zip and, 4) sustained media follow up of the efforts.



Figure 1: First Day Cover for the 1966 Migratory Bird Treaty U.S. postage stamp; a Mr. Zip with mail bag appearing on a portion of the selvage. The writer in Lake Bluff, Illinois, correctly used the zip code for Danville in the address.

As the campaign launched, the nation quickly experienced a barrage of Mr. Zip promotional items and paraphernalia. Press kits were sent to local post offices nationwide to help promote the program, containing signs, posters, buttons and rubber stamps. In addition, Mr. Zip regularly was distributed as a cutout figure and appeared on mail delivery vehicles, magazines, radio, public service announcements, television, jewelry, toys and other standard consumer products. The POD even enticed singer Ethel Merman to record a song to the tune of “Zippity-Dee-Doo-Dah” advertising the importance of using a ZIP code. The POD also called upon numerous other famous celebrities to mention Mr. Zip (even the comic strip character Dick Tracy). The Public Information Office emphasized catering these promotional products to the younger generation hoping they would connect with the Mr. Zip cartoon and help persuade older members of society to use ZIP Codes.

Some citizens went to great lengths to promote Mr. Zip. For example, the September 1963 issue of *Postal Record* reported the city of Wheaton, Illinois hosting a large, cutout float of Mr. Zip in their July 4th parade. Another example of an odd promotional method was the creation of “Miss Zips” and “Zip Girls” in which females were crowned at post

office banquets and dances. Some citizens even dressed up as Mr. Zip and make guest appearances at community events such as boat races, or fairs.



Figure 2: Front and back of POD Notice 42, issued in September 1967 to alert postal patrons to their zip code (in this case 01945, Marblehead, Massachusetts). The suggestions on the back about how to best use the ZIP also emphasize the cost savings to the POD.

Mr. Zip gestures to the number frame on the front, while just his smiling face appears on the back.



Response to Mr. Zip

Despite the success and popularity of Mr. Zip with the younger generation, the enthusiasm was not shared by all. Several groups had a negative view of the new campaign and resented the implementation of ZIP Codes by Mr. Zip as a burden in their daily lives. Postal workers, especially those on the front lines, took offense at these changes in the postal delivery system. To many, the implementation of the ZIP Code was viewed as a challenge to their jobs and an extra “chore.” A disgruntled workforce feared that Mr. Zip had the potential to take over their job duties, particularly as the process could become more automated and make their jobs obsolete. A postal employee submitted an editorial to the September 1965 issue of *Postal Record* saying: “If the money and effort wasted on the ZIP program was widely used to restore curtailed service, both first class and parcel post, we would be better off.”

In addition to postal workers feeling upset over recent changes in the postal delivery system, some of the American public also felt this new system was an inconvenience to their daily lives. Introduction of the ZIP Code overlapped with Americans also becoming acquainted with the use of area codes in phone numbers. Many citizens felt that more numbers would make life more complex. In response, the POD published directories and offered assistance to help in the transition. But the public rarely accepted the help, often doubting whether the system worked and if it would actually increase the speed of mail delivery. Interestingly, some Americans took an even stronger, more political stance on the introduction of Mr. Zip, feeling that the new ZIP Code system was unpatriotic;

others called it un-American. Perhaps Mr. Zip was a government conspiracy that would seriously undermine American culture. Although amusing today, it should be noted that, during the 1960s, many Americans faced domestic uncertainty as a result of the Cold War and felt threatened.

Mr. Zip regularly made appearances on stamp panes in the selva on United States commemorative stamps (see Figure 1) until his official retirement in 1983, his 20th Anniversary. Eventually, Mr. Zip was replaced with the current ZIP + 4 zoning system, that adds an additional four numbers after the zip code to further increase the speed of mail delivery. These new numbers can sort mail even further to a more specific corner and block. However, the traditional use of a zip code is still used widely and considered acceptable, while the additional numbers are more often found on mail from large volume mailers. Even though the zip code was originally intended for increasing the speed of mail delivery, it has become an important tool in statistical research. For example, the use of zip codes can help gather statistics on certain demographics or even help retailers better meet customer demand when consumers are asked for their zip code at the checkout line.



Figure 3: POD Notice 32, issued in June 1971 – to be placed in a patron's post office box as a reminder to pay the box rent. By this time, including just Mr. Zip's face is sufficient.

Mr. Zip and Philately

The story of Mr. Zip is not only a postal history topic, but also can be an interesting ephemera and philatelic collectible. On July 1st, 1963, Mr. Zip made his first appearances in the United States. In 1964, Mr. Zip first appeared on the five cent Sam Houston stamp (Scott 1242) and would continue to be seen on stamp panes until his retirement in 1983. Throughout his appearances on stamp panes, he would be shown in at least three different positions. These positions included holding a letter, running, even gesturing or leaning towards the stamp design. As a result, collecting the selva of stamp pane margins can be a creative way to collect stamps and the different combinations of the different positions of Mr. Zip. Moreover, an entire club called *The Zippy Collectors Club* was created in 1972, catering specifically to collectors with an interest in collecting specifically stamp pane margins with Mr. Zip on them and other Mr. Zip paraphernalia. In addition, Mr. Zip can also be found on other non-postal valid portions of postage including inside stamp booklets issued during his use by the POD.

In 2013, Mr. Zip made an appearance on the \$5.60 Arlington Green Bridge Priority Mail stamp issue (Scott 4738) in honor of his fiftieth anniversary. In the same year, Mr. Zip also made an appearance on the selva margins of the \$19.95 Grand Central Station Express Mail stamp issue (Scott 4739).

Conclusion

Although adding the zip code when addressing an envelope seems like an ordinary thing to do for us stamp collectors, it is important to recall the significance of using the Zip code regularly. Even though the present system is over fifty years old, it is apparent the then POD was highly successful in introducing the use of the zip code with the use of Mr. Zip. The postal service initiatives might have been seen at first as a hindrance, but they really were designed to improve the customer experience. This is especially true in the postal service's goals to make the mail delivery faster - something that Mr. Zip achieved.

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The Oregon Statehood Centennial Celebration

by Ralph H. Nafziger

On February 14, 1859, President James Buchanan signed a Congressional bill making Oregon the 33rd state. One hundred years later, the state celebrated its centennial with hundreds of activities throughout the year. The anniversary was a major event in the state - attractions included the Oregon Centennial Exposition and International Trade Fair in Portland from June to September, parades, re-enactments, artworks, a play, a musical, and a new zoo railway.¹ These activities generated numerous souvenirs, program booklets, photographs, and assorted miscellaneous ephemera such as napkins, bow ties, tumblers, and spoons.

Philatelic Commemoration

As part of the celebration, the United States Post Office Department issued a commemorative postage stamp in Astoria, Oregon on the anniversary date. The Astoria post office held an open house with tours throughout the day. Astoria was the first post office and customs house west of the Rocky Mountains; Lewis and Clark established Ft. Clatsop near Astoria in 1804.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee, on May 10, 1958, Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield announced the scheduling of the stamp. Designer Robert Hallock, a Newton, Connecticut artist, submitted five sketches (Figure 1) from which one was selected for the basic design.



Figure 1: Preliminary sketches by Robert Hallock for the 1959 Oregon Statehood postage stamp.

The approved design was a detail taken from an 1860 painting (Figure 2) entitled “On the Road,” by Thomas Prouty Otter (1832-1890). Otter, who trained at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, sketched, painted, and photographed the country’s scenery in a realistic and detailed style.² The final approved design included a white star to the left of the wagon (Figure 3).



Figure 2: Thomas Prouty Otter's best known painting, On the Road, the source for the vignette on the stamp.

Figure 3: Publicity photograph of the final design for the stamp. The Post Office Department gave these to media representatives in a press kit as a source of information for articles.



On December 3, 1958, Mr. Summerfield approved a model of the final design after it had been submitted to the Post Office Department on the same date. In addition to designer Hallock, Charles A. Brooks engraved the vignette, and John S. Edmondson engraved the panel, white star, lettering, and numerals. The die proof was approved by Mr. Summerfield on December 15, 1958. The first printing order was placed on December 18, 1958.

The first day ceremony for the stamp was held in the auditorium of the Oregon National Guard Armory in Astoria, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Vice President Richard M. Nixon attended and delivered the main address to a crowd of more than 2,500. Bad weather prevented Oregon Governor Mark O. Hatfield from attending. L. Rohe Walter, Special Assistant to the Postmaster General, presented souvenir albums to the Vice President and other dignitaries, including 11-year-old Charles J. Shively, great-great grandson of Astoria's first postmaster (appointed 1847). The Astoria High School band provided music. After the invocation and greetings by mayor Harry Steinbock, guests were introduced by master of ceremonies R.J. Hanson. The Vice Presidential address, album presentations,



and the benediction followed.³ After the ceremony, a luncheon was held in the John Jacob Astor Hotel for invited guests (Figure 4). Astoria postmaster Neil L. Morfitt was the Master of Ceremonies. Mr. Walter was the principal speaker. The luncheon featured a large cake with a replica of the stamp.

The stamp could be ordered from or purchased at the Philatelic Sales Agency in Washington, DC until July 13, 1960 (Figure 5).

Figure 4: Menu and ticket for the luncheon held in Astoria on the first day of issue for the Oregon Statehood stamp.



Other Centennial Commemorations

The year 1959 began with many communities in the state producing commemorative centennial items such as tokens, labels, patches, brochures, music, place mats, clothing items, stationery, coasters, Cinderella “stamps,” and other miscellaneous trinkets.

In 1955, the Oregon Centennial Commission was created by the state legislature to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Oregon statehood. Approximately \$2,600,000 was appropriated for the Commission to accomplish its duties. The Commission staged the aforementioned exposition and trade fair, and assisted local communities in presenting many celebrations and commemorative events.⁴

The centennial year opened officially with a statehood banquet on February 14, 1959, at which Vice President Nixon was the main speaker. The Exposition opening coincided



Figure 5: Philatelic Sales Agency order form, which includes the Oregon Statehood issue.

with the opening of Portland's 51st annual Rose Festival. The forestry building in Portland, originally erected for the 1905 Lewis and Clark Exposition and the "world's largest log cabin," served as the centerpiece of the year's celebrations. During the Exposition, a wagon train traveled the old Oregon Trail from Independence, Missouri to Independence, Oregon requiring four months for the trip. Seven replica covered wagons rumbled over the original 2,200-mile Oregon Trail. President Truman saw the wagons leave Missouri.

This was the last covered wagon convoy to travel the entire trail. One of the wagons can be seen in the Washington County Museum in Hillsboro, Oregon. Over 400 events were held from June through September throughout the State.

There was neither a “national medal” nor any official medal sponsored by the Centennial Commission. There was an official emblem or seal, which appeared everywhere. In the center of the emblem is a scene portraying Oregon’s products and industry, with a small state seal in the upper left. Below the central scene is a small covered wagon and team on a ribbon. The emblem was used on tokens produced by the Northwest Specialty Sales Co. These were marketed successfully to 38 localities in 1959. Many used the tokens to raise funds for local statehood events. Each could customize the reverse that stated “Good for 50c.” The emblem was used by several first day cover cachet makers. Figure 6 shows an example by the Greater Eugene Stamp Society, which was formed in 1949. It’s monthly publication *Echoes* appeared in 1951. Its last known first day cover cachet was made for the Oregon Trail stamp in 1993.

Variations of the emblem appeared on patches, coasters, decanters, stationery, and on music of the “official song” (Figure 7). The song was published under the auspices of the Oregon Centennial Commission.

Figure 6 (below):
Greater Eugene Stamp
Society first day cover
cachet showing the of-
ficial emblem. This was
the first cachet for the
Society.

Figure 7: Official song
sheet music for the Cen-
tennial celebration year.



The Oregon Centennial Exposition and International Trade Fair opened on June 10, 1959 and closed on September 17, 1959 (a symbolic 100 days). Almost 1,500,000 attended with a \$1.00 admission ticket (Figure 8). At the time, it was the largest fair in the west since the San Francisco Worlds Fair in 1939. The entire fair encompassed 80 acres, with parking for 15,000 cars. An aqua center seated 7,000. A large Exposition building contained over 30 booths. Twenty-four countries participated, along with over 50 buildings housing exhibits sponsored by industrial companies, utilities, organizations, universities, Federal agencies, and other commissions.⁵

Figure 8: Admission ticket for the Oregon Centennial Exposition and International Trade Fair.



The Fair sponsored its own seal. This emblem can be found in several first day cover cachets for the Oregon Statehood stamp. An example is shown in Figure 9 in which the seal is superimposed on a Cover Collector's Circuit Club cachet. The Club was the world's largest philatelic exchange non-profit organization with over 2,000 members currently. It was founded in 1947 by King Beal, a Waterloo, IA radio station writer, and C. Robert Pritchard, vice-president of a Waterloo wholesale firm. Its objective is to assist stamp and cover collectors find contacts and promote international friendships. At its height in 1957, it had 32,000 members.

Figure 9: Cover Collectors Circuit Club, Corvallis, OR chapter, cachet with the Exposition logo superimposed.



More than 60 people from throughout the state, accompanied by a stagecoach filled with women, left Portland on February 10, 1959 for a 3 1/2 day trip to Astoria. The group called itself the Centennial Pony Express, and arrived in the coastal city to participate in the first day ceremonies for the new stamp.⁶ In addition, a re-enactment of the Pony Express carrying the mail was sponsored by the Centennial Pony Express, Inc. in Portland (Figure 10, next page). This "Pony Express" ran across the state. One could order a commemorative cover and submit a message, and these would be carried by this "Pony Express" and deposited into the mail stream at post offices along the Oregon border.

During the centennial celebration, men were encouraged to begin growing mustaches and beards at the beginning of the year, to be shaved at the end of 1959. My Uncle, Ted Lathrop, an Oregon City physician, enthusiastically embraced this activity. To aid in



grooming the bearded faces, a centennial whiskers comb was produced (Figure 11). Women wore centennial aprons, for example, while performing their kitchen duties, or served food on special commemorative plates.

Figure 10: Back of the brochure advertising the “Pony Express” run across Oregon in 1959.

Figure 11: Pink plastic whisker comb for grooming Oregon Centennial beards



Local memorabilia included a cloth Crook County Centennial Buck, which one could trade for \$1.00 in the county. The reverse advertised a century celebration in Prineville, the county seat. Another item was a “100 Oregon Bucks” bill, printed for the centennial (Figure 12).

Figure 12: Back of the “100 Oregon Bucks” bill printed for the Oregon Centennial.



One of the best-known annual events in the State is the Pendleton.⁷ Not to be outdone, the Umatilla County Numismatic and Philatelic Association, Inc. produced “Pendleton Centennial” coins for the centennial year.

Figure 13: Admission ticket for the SS Centennial Queen cruise on the Columbia River



River cruises were available in Portland, provided that one bought a ticket on the river steamer SS *Centennial Queen* (Figure 23). This ship was built in 1922 as the ferry SS *Shasta*. It served San Francisco Bay until 1937 when it was moved to Puget Sound. In 1959, it was moved to Portland and renamed. It ran routes up and down the Columbia and Willamette Rivers, finally becoming the *River Queen*, a floating restaurant docked along Portland’s waterfront. The restaurant closed in 1995 when the ship was moved and moored close to St. Helens, Oregon.

Endnotes

¹ *Official Program, Oregon Centennial, 1859-1959*, 64 pp., 1959.

² After the Civil War, Otter taught art at the Linden Female Seminary. He co-founded the Bucks County (Pennsylvania) Historical Society.

³ Nafziger, Ralph H., “Four First Days for Oregon,” *First Days*, vol. 52, no.1, January 15, 2007, pp. 44-48.

⁴ *Schedule of Events for Oregon’s Centennial Year*, Oregon Centennial Commission, 8 pp, folded, 1959.

⁵ Standard Oil Company of California, Oregon Centennial and International Trade Fair, brochure, 1959, unpagd.

⁶ Anonymous, *Astorian Evening Budget*, “Express Riders Enroute,” Feb. 10 & Feb. 12. Also: *The Oregonian*, “Wild West Hospitality Shows Schedule of Portland to Astoria Pony Express,” Feb. 12, 1959, pp. 5-6.

⁷ Travel Information Division, Oregon State Highway Department, *Oregon Centennial*, Salem, OR, 1959, unpagd.

Ralph Nafziger is an Oregon collector, whose specialty is the postal history of Grundy County, Iowa. He has participated in many Summer Seminars, and is active in the Auxiliary Markings Club.

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The U.S. Army Postal Service in Casablanca from 1942

by David Stotter

Introduction

Operation Torch, the invasion of Vichy French North Africa in 1942, was comprised of three Allied task forces: U.S. forces in the west with Casablanca as their objective; U.S. forces in the center landing at Oran; and Anglo-American forces to the east aiming for Algiers.

In the west, the American army landed at Fedala, north of Casablanca, on November 8, 1942. Landings also took place at Mehedia and Saffi.¹ The battle for Casablanca took place during November 8 to 11 when, tragically, Frenchmen fought Americans and died in what was surely the worst of all causes. British forces were not involved in this battle but, later on, a few specialist British units did serve in this theater.²

American Army Post Offices

Casablanca became a major base for American forces, and a number of army post offices (APOs) were established there, see Table 1.³

Table 1: American Army Post Offices in Casablanca

APO number	From	Until	Comments
194	July 46	March 47	
251	July 43	August 43	From: Kasba Tamara / To: Oran, Algeria
367	July 43	December 43	To: Oran
369	August 43	September 43	To: Oran
396	March 44	January 46	
524	February 43	March 46	
543	May 43	August 43	To: Mostaganem, Algeria
567	October 43	May 44	To: Naples, Italy
600	January 45	May 46	
668	December 42	May 44	
758	December 42	March 43	To: Mostaganem
759	February 43	August 45	
762	December 42	August 43	To: Constantine, Algeria
764	July 43	May 44	To: Oran
765	January 43	September 43	To: Naples
776	March 43	August 43	To: Oran
782	August 43	September 43	From: Port Lyautey / To: Oran

Most APO covers have the APO number somewhere in the cancellation and this usually corresponds to that in the return address (see Figure 1). However, from mid-1942 to mid-1943 the U.S. Army decided to remove the APO number from canceling devices as a security measure. In addition, some cancellers, regardless of time period, do not contain the APO number. When there is no APO number, the APO can be identified by that written in the return address, although this might be out of date. Where the APO number in the return address does not correspond with the cancellation, the decision is always for the latter reason (see Figure 2).

In addition to APOs at Casablanca there were also APOs at Port Lyautey (new Mehedia, now Kenitra), Rabat, Sale, Marrakech and Oujda (near the Algerian border) but these are outside the scope of this article.



Figure 1: Casablanca APO 759 to New York in May 1944. On this postcard the APO number in the cancellation corresponds to that in the return address, and the date is within the period when APO 759 was at Casablanca (see Table 1). Passed by Censor mark.



Figure 2: Casablanca APO 668 to Missouri in July 1943. On this postcard the APO number in the cancellation does not correspond with that in the return address but the date is within the period when both APO 668 and APO 759 were at Casablanca. Passed by Censor mark.

Figure 3: Casablanca APO 668 to Philadelphia in December 1942. There is no APO number in the cancellation but APO 668 appears in the return address and the date is within the period when this was at Casablanca. Censor tape [cellophane tape or Sellotape was first



manufactured in 1937.] The 68th Coastal Artillery Regiment arrived in Casablanca in November 1942, and later fought in Tunisia, Sicily, and Italy.

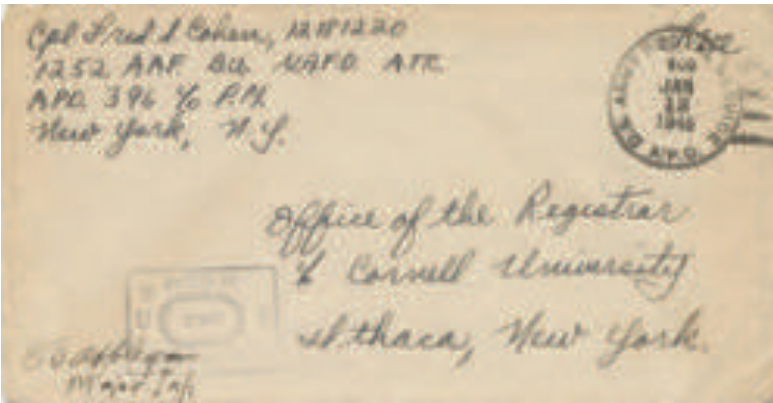


Figure 4: Casablanca APO 600 to New York in January 1945. The APO number in the cancellation does not correspond with that in the return address but the date is within the period when both APO 396 and APO 600 were at Casablanca. Passed by Censor mark. Mailed from the 1252nd Army Air Force Base Unit.



Figure 5: Casablanca APO 524 to Chicago in July 1945. The APO in the cancellation corresponds to that in the return address and the date is within the period when APO 524 was at Casablanca. Note the patriotic envelope. 6-cent concessionary airmail rate. Sent June 5 and arrived June 9. Jefferson Station Chicago arrival mark on reverse.

V-Mail

Letters could also be sent by V-Mail (V for Victory) which was available from the beginning of the Morocco campaign.

Here, the physical transfer of mail from North Africa and other theaters of war took place by microfilm in order to save space and weight, a system based on the Airgraph first used by British troops in Egypt in 1941.

A soldier wrote a letter on a printed V-Mail form, folded and sealed it, and handed it in to be sent home. At the nearest (often mobile) field V-Mail processing facility, it was censored, microfilmed, and flown to the APO/FPO processing center in New York or Chicago. Here it was printed and transferred to the U.S. postal service for delivery.

Sometimes the V-Mail form itself was sent to the States because of issues with microfilming. Figure 6 shows an interesting example of this. Fig 7 shows a V-mail form opened by censor. Fig 8 shows a microfilm and its envelope sent in the normal way.



Figure 6: V-Mail Algeria to New York in May 1943, addressed front; and back detail showing censor initials by the writer's officer before sealing. The APO number in the cancellation does not correspond with that in the return address. The date is within the period when APO 668 was at Casablanca but APO 772 in the datestamp was at Arzew in Algeria at this time, so the letter was sent from there. The sender was Hamlet Milione (1911-1980), a Corporal in the 540th Engineer Combat Regiment which specialized in beach landings. The regiment had previously been based in Morocco but was required for Operation Husky, the invasion of Sicily largely from Algeria and Tunisia, which took place in July 1943.



Figure 7: V-Mail Casablanca APO 762 to St. Louis in March 1943, addressed front; back detail with Censor seal and mark; also, the list of 7 steps in preparing V-Mail from the inside of a form. There is no APO number in the cancellation but APO 762 appears in the return address and the date is within the period when this was at Casablanca. The sender was a Major and therefore allowed to censor his own letters, but for some reason this letter attracted the official censor. The 1st Defense Wing was a fighter wing later re-designated 62nd Fighter Wing. It was based at Casablanca Airfield from January 30, 1943 and then moved to Tunisia in May, Sicily in July, and Italy in October.



Figure 8: V-Mail Casablanca to New Jersey in August 1943. The date of posting falls within the period when APO 759 in the return address was in Casablanca.



USO Mail

The United Service Organizations (USO) was created in 1941 to provide social, recreational, welfare, and spiritual support to U.S. forces. It coordinated the efforts of the Salvation Army, YMCA, YWCA, National Catholic Community Services, National Travellers Aid Association, and the National Jewish Welfare Board. Figure 8 shows a USO letter from Casablanca.

Figure 9: USO cover and contents, Casablanca APO 668 to San Francisco in July 1943. The APO number in the cancellation does not correspond to that in the return address, but the date is within the period when both APO 668 and APO 759 were at Casablanca. Passed by Censor mark. Envelope slogan: "Idle Gossip Sinks Ships" (the author has another example of this envelope sent from APO 759 by a U.S. Chaplain in February 1944).



Postal Stationery

Postal stationery envelopes, prepaid at the 6-cent domestic airmail rate for a half ounce that applied to armed forces mail (from December 25, 1941), were available to the troops. The envelope style in Figure 10 is found – but rarely – with the mark RF (Republique Francaise) applied in black to the embossed stamp (see Figure 11). These were not sold as such, the RF mark (of which there are nine varieties) being applied, between March 1944 and October 1945, by French naval postal clerks to letters bound for the U.S. from French sailors at Casablanca (and elsewhere), after the censorship and before being turned over to U.S. naval authorities for dispatch. Covers being the 6-cent adhesive were similarly treated. The RF control mark meant that such mail received lower priority than mail sent by Americans.



Figure 10: Scott UC6 6-cent prepaid airmail envelope, Casablanca to New Jersey in January 1943 with Postage Due. There is no APO number in the cancellation but APO 668 appears in the return address and the date is within the period when this was at Casablanca. Circular Passed by Examiner mark, and resealing label as in Figure 7. 6-cents postage due charged at destination (no doubt overweight which also attracted the attention of the Censor to override the self censorship of a Major). The 1st Battalion 175th Engineers landed at Casablanca in November 1942 and early in 1943 transferred to Tebessa in Algeria to take part in the Italian campaign. The author has a very similar cover, taxed but uncensored, sent by a Colonel from APO 306 in March 1943 (probably Oran, Algeria).

Endnotes

- ¹ See R. Atkinson, *An Army at Dawn*, London 2003, p. 103 and following.
- ² A. Kennedy, *The Overprinter* 4/2004, p. 99
- ³ Data from: *Numerical Listing of APO's*, United States Army Postal Service.

David Stotter's main collecting interest is the philately of the Morocco Agencies – the first APO cover he purchased, some thirty years ago, is shown in Figure 5. This represented a fairly esoteric area of collecting in those days, but his interest was stimulated by the late Tony Bishop. Mr. Stotter is the Publications Manager for the Postal History Society (UK). This article was published first in *Postal History*, No. 357, June 2016 and appears here, with the author's permission.

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Post Offices & the Mormon Diaspora into Southern Alberta, Canada: Part I: Glenwood & Hill Spring District

by Dale Speirs

The Hill Spring and Glenwood area consists of low rolling hills that are a transition between the Rocky Mountain foothills to the west and the prairie flatlands to the east. European settlement began in earnest after the Royal Canadian Mounted Police arrived in 1874. By the 1890s, cattle ranching was predominant, relying on huge leases of government land, measured in tens of thousands of hectares and costing pennies an acre. The leases were gained by political influence in Ottawa, and then syndicated to European investors the way that junior mining stocks are sold today. The Cochrane Cattle Company was the largest land owner and leasor by far, and had control over almost all of the area. It was owned by Senator Matthew Cochrane from Quebec. Large-scale ranching became uneconomical around the turn of the century when the companies ran out of gullible investors, since none of them ever made a profit. In 1906, three years after the Senator's death, the Cochrane ranch was offered for sale to the Latter Day Saints Church (LDS) because the ranch owners knew the Mormons would settle the land rather than use it for speculation.

The Mormon diaspora* had previously settled a large area further south, from Cardston (where they built a temple) to the American border. They had demonstrated their ability at irrigation farming and colonizing the land with respectable families, to the point where the Canadian federal government favored them as homesteaders. Their ability to irrigate land meant that a higher population could be supported, compared to cattle ranching, which depopulated many areas.

The LDS Church accepted the offer from Cochrane Cattle, and subdivided the land for irrigation farming. Over the next decade, the area quickly increased its population and several villages were founded. Mail service came overland from Cardston. The settlers always looked south to Salt Lake City and east to Cardston for supplies and societal connections.¹ Figure 1 shows the Glenwood-Hill Spring district, on a 1939 resources map, and overlaid on a 1922 map (the squares are a mile on each side).



Figure 1: Detail of a 1939 Department of Lands and Mines map of natural resources shows a railway connecting Glenwoodville to Cardston and eastward to connect with a line from Lethbridge. In 1922, the line stopped at Cardston. Both maps show the many streams that provided irrigation water for farming, rather than ranching.

Hill Spring

By 1909, a village had been platted at the foot of a hill with a good spring. It was originally called Spring Hill but when a post office was applied for, the name was already in use elsewhere, so the settlers reversed the words. Franklin Pierce Fisher was the first postmaster from February 1, 1911, but only ran the post office briefly in his house until December 20 of that same year. He had too many things going on, including being elevated to Bishop in the LDS Church, so he handed the postmastership to John Booth Merrill. The post office moved into the Merrill residence. Merrill was a jack-of-all-trades, from carpentry to tree nurseryman to Justice of the Peace. He was the only one in the area who knew anything about dentistry or medicine, and was entrusted by the government to vaccinate residents.

Nathan Eldon Tanner took over the post office on October 1, 1924, and moved it into his general store. He later entered politics and became a provincial cabinet member, as well as being very active in the LDS Church. The post office then moved to the house of Leslie W. Coombs, who became postmaster on March 1, 1926, and held the position for a couple of years. His wife Agnes actually ran the post office. It was in the front of the house and the family lived in the back. The Coombs family moved to the United States and Alexander Marian Brooks took over on July 10, 1928.

Brooks had grown up in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina and by a circuitous route eventually came to the Hill Spring area with his wife and younger children. Originally he bought a farm from Tanner's brother, but with his older kids starting their own families, more space was needed. He bought the Coombs house in Hill Springs, becoming postmaster in the process. He and part of his family lived there while the grown and married children stayed out on the farm. Brooks was a long-service postmaster and finally retired on October 16, 1946. Fisher's son Franklin Paul briefly served as a placeholder postmaster until January 31, 1947, when Ivan Eugene Workman became the new postmaster.

Workman was born and raised in southwestern Alberta. He served the full duration of World War Two, including the first landing on D-Day. After the war he farmed north of Hill Spring but initially lived in the Coombs house with its post office. He and his wife bought a bigger house in the village and the post office moved with them. Another long-server, he retired from the post office on February 15, 1972. His daughter-in-law Mildred Nadene Leavitt Workman took over as postmaster. Canada Post records cut off after this date due to privacy laws.² The post office in modern times is now in a one-room shack.



Figure 2: Pictorial postmark of Hill Spring. Figure 3: 2015 view of Hill Spring post office decorated for breast cancer awareness.



Figure 2 shows the pictorial postmark of Hill Spring. In the summer of 2015 when I was researching this article, I was startled to see the post office wrapped in pink taffeta and plastic pennants, seen in Figure 3. The postmistress told me that this was part of a campaign in aid of breast cancer research, and the decorations would stay on until the dry season was over.

Ewelme

Thomas J. Turner was born in Ontario in 1825 and moved to the Ewelme district in 1901. He would have been 75 years old on arrival, an unusual age to be homesteading. The first post office opened in his home on May 1, 1905. Mail service was via Fort Macleod. The post office name came from the district, which in turn was named after a village in Oxfordshire, England. Turner served as postmaster until 1912, when he died at the age of 87. His brother H.J. Turner then took over the post office until May 3, 1919. The final postmaster was Thomas Edward Murphy until the post office closed on February 29, 1928, a victim of good roads. Thereafter mail service was a rural route out of Glenwood.³

Springridge

Spelled as one word, this district was named after a chain of hills along its north side that spout numerous springs. The hills also shelter the district from north winds and often divert storms. The McNellis family arrived in 1901 from Minnesota to homestead. The population grew enough to justify a post office and on September 1, 1909, James C. McNellis became the first postmaster. The post office was in a front room in his house. He served until his death on September 5, 1921.

His widow Anna then briefly looked after the post office until May 4, 1922, when she handed the postmastership to Elmer D. McNellis, nephew of James. Figure 4 is a proof strike of the registration mark. McNellis moved the post office to his house on a nearby farm. It was discontinued on July 30, 1946, and replaced by a rural route.⁴

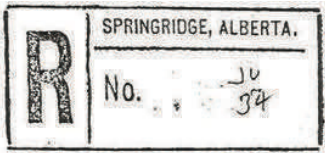


Figure 4: Springridge registry marking.

Glenwoodville / Glenwood

This village was founded in 1908 in the heart of the Cochrane Ranch area, which was big enough after the transfer to have its own LDS Stake. The original proposal was to name it Edwoodville after Edward J. Wood, the president of the Stake. He declined the honor and asked that instead it be named after his first-born son Glen. The village was called Glenwoodville until July 27, 1979, when its name was shortened to Glenwood. For consistency, I will refer to it only as Glenwood even though during the majority of its life it was known to residents by its -ville name.

James Albert Layton and his family arrived from Utah in 1888 and farmed in several areas of the Mormon diaspora before settling at Glenwood. He became first postmaster when the post office opened on February 1, 1911, in his farm house. Figure 5 shows a



couple of proof strikes of early postmarks. Robert Savage took over as postmaster on June 8, 1917, and was succeeded by Mrs Jannette (Nettie) Leavitt on August 11, 1920. The post office moved to a front room of the Leavitt house. A telephone

Figure 5: 1911 and 1926 Glenwoodville markings.

exchange was added to it, for which Nettie and her daughter were the operators. The extra workload caused her to give up the postmastership.⁵

The post office then moved in 1923 into the general store of Ernest Albert Law. His son Harry Wallace Law took it over in 1931. From there it went to the house of Sidney John Stanley Read in 1934, who was a long-server until 1956. During his tenure, the post office moved into a standalone building. He was succeeded by his wife Annie, who stayed until 1963. Edwin (Ted) Kent Greene, a collateral descendant of Brigham Young, took over as postmaster until 1968, when he handed the post office to Mrs. Joyce L. Shipley, after which privacy laws kick in.

When the postal code system was introduced by the Canadian Post Office in 1972, Glenwood was initially assigned the code T0K 0Y0. Problems developed with mail intended for Glenwood being mis-sorted for Tokyo, Japan, so the code was changed to T0K 2R0. Figure 6 is a pictorial postmark from the modern era. Figure 7 shows the post office as it was when I visited in 2015. It had moved into a side apartment of a bank. The village is prosperous, and I was impressed by how clean and tidy everything was.

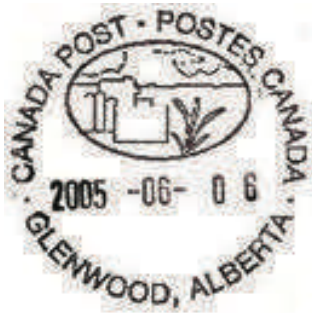


Figure 6: Pictorial marking of Glenwood, 2005.

Figure 7: Glenwood's 2015 post office.



Hartleyville

This village, just east of the Waterton River, was named after James Hartley, who was a Social Credit Member of the Legislature of Alberta from 1935 to 1967 and later a cabinet minister in the Alberta provincial government. Mail service was from the south via Cardston. This post office opened very late in Alberta's history, skipping the pioneer era completely. Jesse Lawrence Stanford became the first postmaster on January 2, 1939, serving until November 12, 1946. Four placeholder postmasters then came and went until Hans Christian Jensen accepted the position on April 1, 1950. As his name suggests, he was of Danish origin but was actually born in Utah. The post office moved into his grocery store and his wife Zina was his assistant. Hans previously had been postmaster further south at what is now the ghost town of Aetna.

For some reason there was a brief intermission in Jensen's postmastership, during which time Morris Blain Allred served as postmaster from December 1, 1954 until September 27, 1955, after which Jensen returned to the job. He retired in 1963 and was succeeded by Mrs. Roumelia Hartley Smith. She was a relative of the man for whom the post office had been named. By then the need for a post office was declining due to nearby Glenwood taking the majority of the trade. On April 29, 1968, the post office

permanently closed and became a rural route via Cardston, with Glenwood providing post office services.



Figure 8: Hartleyville's 1938 marking.

Epilogue

The Mormon diaspora has one noticeable difference compared to adjacent dry areas settled by Gentiles. Good roads have killed more post offices than any other cause in Alberta. Because the irrigation farms can support a higher population, many of their post offices have been able to survive despite paved highways that carry business elsewhere. Based on my personal experience of driving around southwestern Alberta, when I compare the drylands of southern Alberta with the Hill Spring-Glenwood area, it seems obvious that without irrigation there would only be one post office in the whole district at best, and more probably none.

Endnotes

- * *Editors' Note on the Mormon Diaspora*: In the wake of The Edmunds Act (also known as the Edmunds Anti-Polygamy Act), a United States federal statute of 1882 that began to be enforced in 1887, some members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints moved families across the border into Canada or Mexico. Men who had plural wives (such as the ancestor of editor Robert Dalton Harris who settled families near both Lethbridge, Alberta, and Juarez, Mexico), instead of divorcing all but one as the church recommended, separated their plural households.
- ¹ various authors (1975) *Hill Spring and Its People*. Published by Hill Spring Cultural Society, Alberta.
- ² Library and Archives Canada (downloaded 2014-03-28) Post offices and postmasters. www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/post-offices/001001-100.01-e.php
- ³ Karamitsanis, Aphrodite (1992) *Place Names of Alberta. Volume 2: Southern Alberta*. Published by University of Calgary Press.
- ⁴ Wuth, Farley (editor) (2014) *Prairie Grass to Mountain Pass*. Published by Pincher Creek and District Historical Society, Alberta.
- ⁵ various authors (1978) *Chief Mountain Country. Volume 1*. Published by Cardston and District Historical Society, Alberta.

Dale Speirs, an active postal historian and researcher, is editor of the *Calgary Philatelist* (journal of the Calgary Philatelic Society, Alberta, Canada). This article follows a series that he has provided for our readers on the disappearance of rural post offices in the province of Alberta.

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a review by Terence Hines

Gallagher, Winifred. *How the Post Office Created America*. New York: Penguin Books. Hardbound, 326 pages, \$28.00. ISBN: 978-1-59420-500-2.

Leonard, Devin. *Neither Snow nor Rain. A History of the United States Postal Service*. New York: Grove Press. Hardbound, \$26.00. ISBN: 978-0-8021-2458-6.

It has been over 45 years since anyone published a history of the postal service in the United States. In 1970 Carl Hl Scheele published *A Short History of the Mail Service*. This was more a series of short unconnected vignettes than a connected, narrative history. Two years later Wayne E. Fuller's *The American Mail. Enlarger of the Common Life* appeared. Fuller's book was a history in the usual sense of the word. However, he didn't take the story much beyond the early 20th century. For example, airmail isn't even mentioned except in passing on two pages. Fuller did include a very interesting "epilogue" in which he discussed the possible effects of the Postal Reorganization Act, passed in 1970. Richard R. John's (1995) *Spreading the News* dealt specifically with the early period of the post office and the importance of newspaper distribution.

The two books under review here have appeared within less than two months of each other. Each aims to provide an up-to-date history of the post office in the United States. And each succeeds. It has always seemed to me that the general public has almost no knowledge of the history of the post office, other than the Pony Express, and, if asked, would be surprised at the very idea that the post office played such an important role in the development of the nation. From the point of view of the non-philatelic, general reader both books will bring the history of the post office to life. Both read well and tell the story of the post office with skill. Both authors make the story exciting, because it is an exciting story. Neither get bogged down in tedious detail that would put off a general reader. The reviews of both on Amazon support this idea. The reviews are very positive and many reviewers express surprise and pleasure at learning how exciting the history of the post office really is.

Since both books are telling the same story, it's natural that there is a great deal of overlap in the topic covered. Both books identify two major tensions that weave through the history of the post office. One is between the post office as a basic service that should not have to break even or make a profit versus the view that the post office should pay its own way. The second tension concerns whether, or to what extent, the post office should compete with private businesses. Neither author takes a stand one way or another on these issues but both clearly articulate the opposing points of view and the effects these have had on postal policy at different times in the nation's history.

The material in both books, including the two tensions noted above, will be very familiar to readers of this journal. In spite of the familiarity of the material, it is very nice to have it available in one place for easy reference, something that the previous books didn't really allow. Postal historians will, however, find Leonard's book the better of the two. There are several reasons for this. Gallagher tends to be more careless in the details of historical writing. She almost never gives the sources of the figures that she cites throughout the book. Those familiar with the literature will recognize that many of these

come from the annual reports of the Postmaster General but not giving specific citations strikes me as sloppy scholarship. She also can slip up and make elementary errors. For example, she says (p. 262) that sales of commemorative stamps are a financial “boon” to the USPS. In fact, sales of stamps to collectors brings in a trivial amount of money compared to the overall postal budget and current deficit. Perhaps it’s a minor point, but I was annoyed when she rightly describes the 1898 “Western Cattle in Storm” \$1 Trans-Mississippi stamp as “the most beautiful engraved stamp ever made” (p. 213) and then doesn’t even refer to the tiny illustration of the stamp back on page 105. And philatelists were certainly not “delighted with the affordable little works of art” (p. 213) when the Columbian series was issued in 1892. In fact, philatelic organizations condemned the series because of its extremely high total face value - \$16.34.

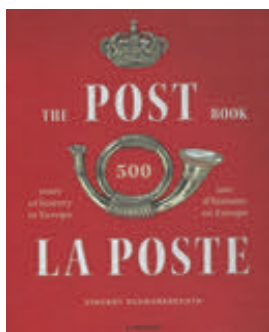
Leonard’s book will be of more interest to the philatelic community. Leonard is better at citing his sources. He has included more illustrations, many in color, although none of stamps. Where the two books really differ are in their coverage of the modern period. Leonard’s book really shines here. He covers the period up to the introduction of airmail service in 1918 in the first 86 pages. The following 173 pages describe postal events up to the present. In Gallagher’s book the first 216 pages cover the period up to the introduction of airmail while the remaining 71 pages are devoted to the modern era. Leonard is a reporter who has written previously on postal topics centered around the problems of the modern post office. His expertise shows here. As a reporter he has interviewed former USPS and postal union officials. These interviews inform his discussion of modern postal events. He goes into detail on the attempts by the USPS, rebuffed by Congress, to introduce a postal email system. When the USPS would start to develop some type of computer age electronic mail program, Congress would shut it down after only a brief trial because it wasn’t profitable even though no such start-up would have been profitable in such a short period. E-COM is a case in point and Leonard nicely describes the machinations behind the demise of this service. Leonard is also excellent in his description of the development of postal mechanization such as optical character readers and facer cancellers as well as the terrible working conditions that led some employees to “go postal.” I do not believe that these recent aspects of modern postal history have been told before in one place. In sum, Gallagher’s book gives a wide overview of post office history that hits all the right spots and brings out the importance of the early post office in the formation of the United States. Leonard’s book will be of more interest to postal historians because of its coverage of the very modern era and the politics behind the great changes in the post service over that past 30 to 40 years.



Figure 1: Penguin Press distributed review copies of the Gallagher book wrapped in black paper and franked with several pictorial Zazzle stamps.

500 Years of Postal History in Europe

a review by Diane DeBlois



Vincent Schouberechts, *The Post Book, 500 years of history in Europe*; *La Poste, 500 ans d'histoire en Europe*, 2016 published in Belgium by Lannoo ISBN 978 94 014 3250 – NUR. Hardbound, 206 pages, color illustrations. Widely available from online sources.

Vincent Schouberechts was one of the keen collectors attending World Stamp Show 2016 who were also promoting their new books. His is a truly beautiful production, designed in Belgium by the publisher, Lannoo, and Keppie & Keppie. The book is clearly a labor of love - by an author with deep knowledge of where to find the rare postal documents (acknowledgments include the aid of private collectors, the major postal museums in Europe, and the Smithsonian National Postal Museum). The idea is to cover the five centuries of postal service in Western Europe through a close examination of fifty documents (with an introduction that extends the communication of intelligence back to, for instance, the 2nd century BC represented by Vicarello silver goblets incised with the relay stations between Cadiz and Rome.) Where possible, the documents are reproduced full size. The entire text, including captions, is printed in English and French.

The author claims to represent both the history of the post office as a business institution, and the history of the transport of mail from one point to another within a demarcated time, location, and space. So, for instance, he shows *La guide des chemins de France*, by Charles Estienne in 1552 - the first annotated itinerary of postal routes in Europe, covering almost 25,000 kilometers; the earliest known letter carried by the Thurn and Taxis family in 1506 which was from the Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I from Bad Ems (Germany) to the Count of Lalaing in Douai (part of the Spanish Netherlands); and the first mention of post boxes in the 1653 instruction in which Renouard de Villayer describes how the Petite Poste would work in Paris.

The organization is an idiosyncratic blend of chronology and thematics, with, as one might guess, much space given to the Thurn and Taxis monopoly and their challengers. A section that focuses on Great Britain includes: “1840 – How the industrial revolution put an end to the monopoly of international postal services. Great Britain leads the way with the 1840 postal reform;” and “1840 – A technical innovation of the carriage of letters by rail that sounded the death knell for coaching inns and the horse post.” In addition to the key postal history documents, M. Schouberechts includes images from art prints and the popular press that illustrate postal themes – for instance, an 1842 caricature published in *La Mode* by Clement Pruche of a postilion watching a train going past under his considerable nose.

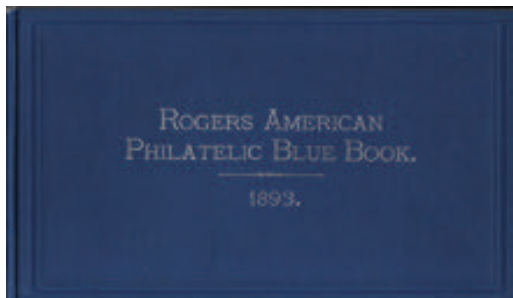
The book is especially to be admired for the presentation of such postal rarities: iconography, background, and significance.



Detail of a printed circular (with annotations) from December 1849 announcing the withdrawal of the light red 1 franc stamp of the first print run in January. Musée de la Poste, Paris

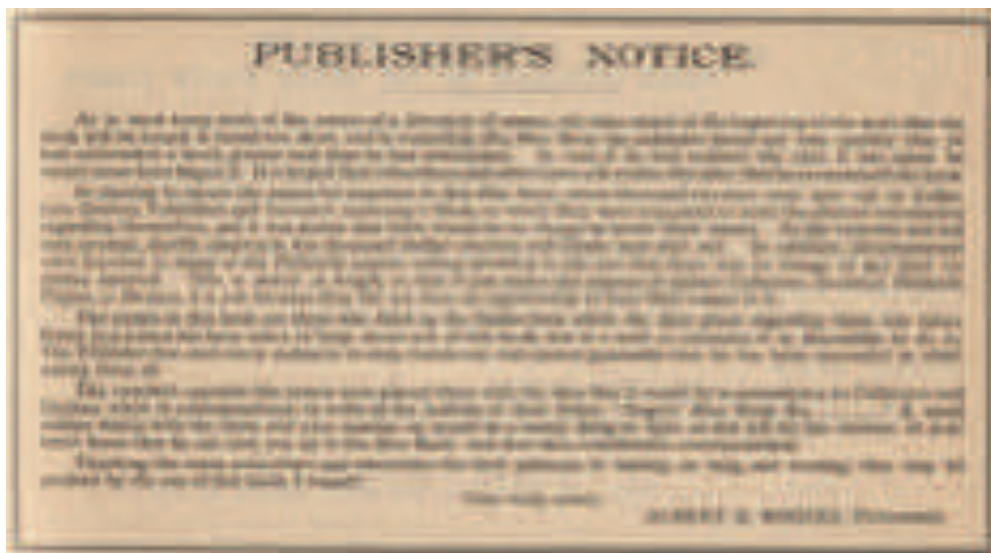
World Stamp Show - 1893 Style

by Stephen Sheppard with Diane DeBlois



Albert R. Rogers, *Rogers American Philatelic Blue Book*, [New York] 1893. Hard-bound, 279 pages. Lists 2,000 stamp collectors & dealers by city & state; Philatelic journals & societies; 700 advertisements. Available online from philatelic and other used book dealers.

A 'Blue Book' refers to a compilation of statistics and information (in the 15th century the Parliament of the United Kingdom used large, blue velvet covered, books for record keeping). This compilation was prepared to be distributed in Chicago at the World's Columbian Exposition - a "Publisher's Notice" at the beginning describes the process used by Albert R. Rogers to compile the statistics.



Rogers had several roles in the world of philately. *The American Philatelist* of April 1891 contained his report as "Third Purchasing Agent" for the American Philatelic Association on the results of Scott Stamp and Coin Company's 105th sale. The December 1891 issue announced that Rogers had changed the name of his own periodical: "to the *Record, Review and Auction Advertiser*. It will be devoted in the future to auction news, and the November number contains a catalogue of a sale of the J.W. Scott Co. We will try and give prices of the most important lots next month." (*Bibliotheca Lindesiana* notes that Rogers's *Record and Review* survived for 3 issues in 1890; and the *Record Review and Auction Advertiser* carried on for 11 issues in total until May 1893, the last 3 numbers being published by J.W. Scott.) Rogers lists himself as a 'stamp broker' with a 75 Maiden Lane, New York City address, and as a member of the Staten Island Philatelic Society, The Philatelic Society [New York], the Brooklyn Philatelic Club, and the National Philatelic Society, the American Philatelic Association.



The American Philatelist of July 1891 published an ardent letter from Rogers, exhorting members of the American Philatelic Association to attend the August convention - and help it become “the largest and most influential philatelic society in the world.” To this end he urged that *The American Philatelist* be continued, that the Association incorporate (it would become incorporated in the State of West Virginia in November), and that all officers be made elective. He also proposed: “That the association have an exhibit at the Columbian World’s Fair.” The full page advertisement that Rogers ran in the *Blue Book* reveals that his idea of an exhibition was adopted.



The full page advertisement of Philip H. Dilg (with Rogers as a reference) offered accommodation in Chicago especially suited to philatelists. The reminder to “Bring your Ladies and family” echoes suggestions made in connection with the World Stamp Show 2016. Though *The Collectors’ Club* of New York could not offer overnight hospitality, for many visitors it was a “Philatelists’ Home” where collectors flocked this past May and June.

Sheila A. Brennan, for her 2009 doctoral dissertation at George Mason University, *Stamping American Memory: Stamp Collecting in the U.S., 1880s-1930s*, used these statistics to determine the demographics of who collected stamps at the end of the 19th century. Listed were “more farmers than doctors and more clerks than bankers, and showed that skilled workers such as electricians, carpenters, blacksmiths, quarrymen, patternmakers, and coal miners publicly identified themselves as stamp collectors. More than half of the 2000 respondents did not belong to a philatelic association, but they must have occasionally read a philatelic paper to know about Rogers’s free listings in this directory.” Of the 2,000 collectors listed, 1,718 were Americans, and only 54 identified solely as dealers. (The dissertation may be downloaded as a pdf, but there is also a fine web site: www.stampingamericanmemory.org that offers charts and graphs of the Blue Book statistics.)

These two facing pages of the Blue Book, part of the listings for California, show the range of statistics offered. Sheila A. Brennan, for her 2009 doctoral dissertation at George Mason University, *Stamping American Memory: Stamp Collecting in the U.S., 1880s-1930s*, used these statistics to determine the demographics of who collected stamps at the end of the 19th century. Listed were “more farmers than doctors and more clerks than bankers, and showed that skilled workers such as electricians, carpenters, blacksmiths, quarrymen, patternmakers, and coal miners publicly identified themselves as stamp collectors. More than half of the 2000 respondents did not belong to a philatelic association, but they must have occasionally read a philatelic paper to know about Rogers’s free listings in this directory.” Of the 2,000 collectors listed, 1,718 were Americans, and only 54 identified solely as dealers. (The dissertation may be downloaded as a pdf, but there is also a fine web site: www.stampingamericanmemory.org that offers charts and graphs of the Blue Book statistics.)



Steven R. Belasco, in his article “Postal History of U.S. Stamp Collecting: 1862-1899” (*The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues*, May 2010 No. 226) illustrated a cover with a corner card for “H.P. Simpson, Dealer in Stamps, Curios and Relics, Tuskegee, Ala.” The place name was amended in pen to Tuskaloosa (the post office of origin was University, Alabama). Belasco noted that Rogers Blue Book listed Simpson as being in Tuskegee as a collector with 450 varieties of stamps - an example of how this compilation can still be useful to philatelists.

The writer of the column “Northwestern Notes” in the *Weekly Philatelic Era* (April 1893) believed that the Blue Book would be used by other entrepreneurs. “Rogers’s American Philatelic Blue Book has made its appearance in this part of the world. To my mind, it is one of the best attempts ever made, which will succeed in placing our hobby in a favorable light before the world. A large number of the Blue Books will be bought by general advertising agencies, for the purpose of securing good agents. Novelty manufacturers, card men, etc., recognize the fact that stamp collectors are hustling agents.”



Was the Blue Book a successful venture? In the January 1893 issue of *Forest and Field* (Volume 1 Number 8, published in Edmeston NY), appeared a listing in the section Stamp News by A. E. Bennett of Williamsville, Massachusetts: “Albert R. Rogers’ *American Philaelic Blue Book* will be ready for delivery not later than the first of April. It will net him \$1,000 profit.” How Bennett derived this figure is hard to compute - the philatelic listings were free - but most probably any profit was derived from the many advertisements. Some ads were full or half page sized, and included woodcut illustration (such as the stamp albums shown here). Other ads ran along the margins (see page 37) top, bottom, and sides. Rogers included several for his own business, and a great many for the American Philatelic Association.

The Association had been formed in New York City on September 13, 1886 (after a Committee on National Organization from the Chicago Stamp Collectors’ Union published in April an announcement asking for responses from philatelists to the idea).

The Committee (S.B. Bradt, O.S. Hellwig, R.R. Shuman) listed as their second reason for a national group: “A national organization will give Philatelists a national recognition as a large and ever increasing class who recognize in the postage stamp an object worthy their attention and study; and such recognition will have a tendency to add recruits to our ranks, as well as to strengthen those already in.” In creating his Blue Book Rogers clearly had some of the same aims. As does, of course, the American Philatelic Society of today - the name was permanently changed from Association at the 1908 convention.

Stephen Sheppard of New York City, a retired dentist, is a noted collector, dealer, and lecturer on all aspects of the World’s Columbian Exposition.

Please Consider Supporting the Society
with a donation when, after the age of 70,
you are required in the United States to withdraw funds from an IRA.

American Postal History in Other Journals

by Ken Grant

Many articles on U.S. postal history are published each month. In order to present a useful survey of recent publications, we adopt a rather narrow definition of postal history and present what is more an index than a literary endeavor. Unlike an index, however, the present listing contains very little cross-referencing; so that a reader interested in trans-Atlantic mail should check each geographical location from which such mail might have originated. Editors not finding their publication reviewed here need only make sure the publication is available to the U.S. Associate Editor, Ken Grant at E11960 Kessler Rd., Baraboo WI 53913.

General Topics

Air Mail

Charles Neyhart examines California's response to National Air Mail Week in "Missed Connections? The May 15-21, 1938, Air Mail Week in San Diego." Neyhart illustrates his article with flight covers as well as cacheted covers marking the events. *La Posta* 47 No. 2 (Second Quarter 2016).

Linda B. Forgosh's "Bamberger's Department Store and the Graf Zeppelin" provides background on that Newark, New Jersey department store and the development of U. S. aviation. *NJPH* 44 No. 2 (May 2016).

Auxiliary Markings

An Atlanta, Georgia auxiliary marking is illustrated in Francis J. Crown's "Deficiency in Address." The 'Deficiency in Address' marking was applied in Atlanta to a cover mailed from Grayson, Kentucky to Hamlett, South Carolina. *Ga. Post Roads* 24 No. 2 (Spring 2016).

Steve Swain's "Auxiliary Markings on Georgia Covers: 'Missent and Forwarded' Tombstone Handstamp" shows an 1862 strike of the "Missent and Forwarded" tombstone handstamp applied at Albany, Georgia. *Ga. Post Roads* 24 No. 3 (Summer 2016).

John M. Hotchner illustrates various Missent markings in "Missent Covers – The International Dimension." *La Posta* 47 No. 2 (Second Quarter 2016).

Civil War

"New Bern Postal Service During the Civil War" by Maurice M. Bursey looks at the postal history of this city located in eastern North Carolina. New Bern was captured by the Union on March 14, 1862, so it was part of the Confederacy for 298 days. Bursey illustrates his article with Confederate covers, Union covers, and various patriotic of the period. *N.C. Post Hist.* 35 No. 3 (Summer 2016).

Patricia A. Kaufmann presents background on a cover mailed from Bealeton, Virginia on the day the Virginia legislature passed the Ordinance of Secession in her article, "A Virginia First Day of Independent Use." *La Posta* 47 No. 2 (Second Quarter 2016).

Francis J. Crown, Jr. illustrates an 1862 Confederate cover with a pair of 5c typographic stamps carrying a Brown & Hape corner card. *Ga. Post Roads* 24 No. 2 (Spring 2016).

"United States Colored Troops Saw Action in the Civil War" by Deane R. Briggs discusses the place of the 35th U. S. Colored Troops during the Civil War and shows a U.S.C.T. endorsed cover from Florida. *Florida Post. Hist. Jour.* 33 No. 3 (September 2016).

Forgeries

Steven M. Roth corrects some errors and provides addition information on Henry K. Jarrett in “Henry K. Jarrett: Forger of United States Postmaster’ Provisionals Stamps and Covers: Some Additions and Corrections.” *Coll. Club Phil.* 95 No. 4 (July-August 2016).

Highway Post Offices

This installment of “Highway Post Offices” by William J. Keller focuses on the Burlington & Albany HPO MPOS #27. *Trans. Post Coll.* 67 No. 4 (May-June 2016).

William J. Keller’s continuing series, “Highway Post Offices” looks at the Syracuse, Auburn & Binghamton HPO MPOS #40. Illustrated are timetables, routes, cancels, and covers. *Trans. Post Coll.* 67 No. 5 (July-August 2016).

Illustrated Mail

Steve Swain shows a number of illustrated covers in “Content Graphics Enhance Georgia Advertising Cover Postal History.” *Ga. Post Roads* 24 No. 2 (Spring 2016).

“Zuccato’s Papyrograph,” an early copying machine is the subject of Peter Martin’s article providing background on a piece of 1893 illustrated mail. *La Posta* 47 No. 2 (Second Quarter 2016).

Francis J. Crown, Jr. provides background on Rich’s department store located in Atlanta, Georgia in his feature “Georgia on Covers.” *Ga. Post Roads* 24 No. 3 (Summer 2016).

Possessions

“Possession Postage Dues – Philippines, Part IV” is the tenth installment of a series of articles showing uses of postage dues produced for use in U.S. possessions. *U.S. Spec.* 87 No. 7 (July 2016).

Postage Due

Charles A. Fricke shows three postcards addressed to the United States with postage due in “Three Foreign Picture Postcards Mailed to the United States Shortpaid by Class.” *La Posta* 47 No. 2 (Second Quarter 2016).

Post Offices

Paul Petosky provides a history of buildings, cancels, and postmasters in “The History of the New Ulm, Minnesota, Post Office.” *La Posta* 47 No. 2 (Second Quarter 2016).

Steve Bahnsen presents seventeen contemporary photographs of Kansas post offices in “Kansas Post Offices.” *La Posta* 47 No. 2 (Second Quarter 2016).

“Vermont Post Offices” shows two recently closed Vermont post offices. *Vermont Phil.* 61 No. 2 (May 2016).

Railroad Mail

Tony L. Crumbley’s “Jamesville and Washington Railroad a.k.a. ‘Jolt and Wiggle’” looks at the a cover with a corner card marking of “The Jamesville & Washington Rail Road & Lumber Co.” A route map shows the north-south route that connected Martin County in North Carolina to Beaufort County in South Carolina. *N.C. Post Hist.* 35 No. 3 (Summer 2016).

“Unlisted Railroad Postmarks” continues the effort to illustrate for the record railroad markings not listed in U. S. Transit Markings Catalog and the U. S. RPO Catalog. Featured is a cover from the Palston & Guthrie RPO. *Trans. Post Coll.* 67 No. 4 (May-June 2016).

Cary E. Johnson’s “Crystal Falls to Pontiac in One Day by Steam” looks at mail carried by a RPO from Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. *Mobile Post Office Select.* Vol. 9.

Frank R. Scheer analyzes a cover mailed from Lewiston, Maine to Collingswood, New Jersey carried by rail in “Special Delivery: Maine to New Jersey.” *Mobile Post Office Select*. Vol. 9.

“Unlisted Railroad Postmarks” continues the effort to illustrate for the record railroad markings not listed in U. S. Transit Markings Catalog and the U. S. RPO Catalog. *Trans. Post Coll.* 67 No. 5 (July-August 2016).

Douglas N. Clark offers some ideas on the classification of street car RPO lines in his column “News from the Cities.” *Trans. Post Coll.* 67 No. 5 (July-August 2016).

World War I

Jesse I. Spector and Robert L. Markovits illustrate mail, fundraising Cinderella stamps, and materials prepared by the Teutonic War Relief Agency in “The Teutonic War Relief Committee.” *La Posta* 47 No. 2 (Second Quarter 2016).

World War II

“The Amphibious Training Center at Carrabelle, Near Tallahassee” by Steve Swain provides historical background regarding the US Army’s Amphibious Training Center. The article contains photographs of the Center as well as covers sent by those being trained there. *Florida Post. Hist. Journal* 23 No. 2 (May 2016).

“USS Indianapolis (CA 35) The Last U.S. Navy Ship Sunk during World War II – Built in New Jersey, Part 1” by Lawrence B. Brennan provides a detailed history of the ship illustrated by covers and photographs. *NJPH* 44 No. 2 (May 2016).

Geographic Location

California

“Mailed Without Postage During the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake Recovery” by Jerry Johnson looks at a cover from San Francisco to Logan, Ohio that was carried without postage. *La Posta* 47 No. 2 (Second Quarter 2016).

Florida

Phil Eschbach discusses a cover sent from Richmond, Virginia to Nathan, Florida in his article, “Ever Hear of Nathan, Florida? An Early History of the Space Center.” Nathan’s post office was located on property that eventually became federal land at Cape Canaveral. The post office opened in 1895 and was discontinued in 1911. Following the article is a list of Canaveral Peninsula and North Merritt Island Post Office Openings and Closings. *Florida Post. Hist. Journal* 23 No. 2 (May 2016).

William Johnson illustrates a stampless folded letter written by Sarah Smith in “Letter from Natchez, West Florida in 1784.” With no postal service between Spanish West Florida and the US, the cover was likely privately carried. *Florida Post. Hist. Journal* 23 No. 2 (May 2016).

“South Bay, Florida, and Its Postmistress of 1928” by Dan Maddalino discusses the history of the town on the south shore of Lake Okeechobee and the hurricane that killed 1,836 people including the postmistress. *Florida Post. Hist. Journal* 23 No. 2 (May 2016).

Deane R. Briggs writes about a town once located along the Jacksonville, Tampa, and Key West Railway north of Crescent City. “Sisco, Florida – A Ghost Town” discusses the growth and decline of the town whose post office closed in 1920. *Florida Post. Hist. Journal* 23 No. 2 (May 2016).

In 1959, mail was carried from the submarine USS *Barbero* to the mainland by a Regulus

cruise missile. Steven Swain in his article “Mayport, Florida: Missile Mail Point of Landing” discusses the event. *Florida Post. Hist. Jour.* 33 No. 3 (September 2016). Francis Ferguson discusses a cover which is part of the Durrance family correspondence addressed to a family member in Bowling Green, Florida in “Wauchula, Florida 106 Years Ago.” *Florida Post. Hist. Jour.* 33 No. 3 (September 2016).

Georgia

Lamar Garrard presents an unusual cover in “Augusta, Georgia Music History.” The 1924 cover was illustrated by musical notation by the sender, J. Louis Sayre, a Georgia musician and teacher. *Ga. Post Roads* 24 No. 2 (Spring 2016).

In “Soldier Letter – Spanish-American War Postal History,” Steve Swain presents a cover mailed by a recruit from Camp Thomas, Georgia. *Ga. Post Roads* 24 No. 3 (Summer 2016).

“Saffold, Georgia Preprinted Free Frank Cover” by Francis J. Crown, Jr. illustrates a preprinted postmaster free frank used by postmaster D. S. Johnston. *Ga. Post Roads* 24 No. 3 (Summer 2016).

Michigan

Charles Wood illustrates a pictorial advertising cover from the Monarch Typewriter Company in his cover article “Typewriter Advertising, Detroit – 1909.” *Peninsular Phil.* 58 No. 2 (Summer 2016).

“Errors in Michigan Town Postmark Production” by Greg Stone looks at a mistake in the production of the Schoolcraft postmark in which the town is spelled Schoolcroft, not Schoolcraft. *Peninsular Phil.* 58 No. 2 (Summer 2016).

“Where is/was Nottowa” by Greg Stone looks at another spelling variant: Nottowa for Nottawa, a settlement on Sand Lake, in St. Joseph County. *Peninsular Phil.* 58 No. 2 (Summer 2016).

New Jersey

Larry T. Nix uses postal cards addressed to philatelist Hiram E. Deats to chronicle that individual’s interest in libraries in “Postal Cards and Hiram E. Deats.” *NJPH* 44 No. 2 (May 2016).

“NJ Straight Line Handstamps: Westfield, New Jersey” by Robert G. Rose illustrates an 1851 cover carrying a Westfield, New Jersey handstamp. *NJPH* 44 No. 2 (May 2016).

“N.J. Local Posts: Newark Dispatch Post” by Larry Lyons illustrates the unique example of the local post on cover. *NJPH* 44 No. 2 (May 2016).

Jean Walton’s “Franklin Furnace, NJ – A Look Back” provides a postal history for Franklin Furnace, now called Franklin. Rich in ores, Franklin Furnace was home to furnaces used in smelting iron. *NJPH* 44 No. 2 (May 2016).

North Carolina

In “Uwharrie, Montgomery County” Tony L. Crumbley provides background on the Uwharrie National Forest and the Uwharrie Post Office, which operated from December 29, 1876 until April 30, 1914. *N.C. Post Hist.* 35 No. 3 (Summer 2016).

Pennsylvania

“Keeping Up with the Jones” is the second in a series of article about Philadelphia hotel markings. Gus Spector illustrates a number of covers from the Jones’ Exchange Hotel. *Pa. Post. Hist.* 44 No. 2 (May 2016).

Cary E. Johnson discusses a grouping of covers mailed to or from Lewisburg, Pennsylvania in “All in the Family.” Lewisburg was the site of a US Penitentiary, and the

correspondent was incarcerated for burglary of an Iowa post office. *Peninsular Phil.* 58 No. 2 (Summer 2016).

“Craddock & Co. Proprietors of Dr. H. James, Cannabis Indica” by Norman Shachat discusses covers from Philadelphia’s Craddock & Co., which dealt in medical marijuana during the end of the nineteenth century. The cannabis was marketed as a cure for consumption and bronchitis. *Pa. Post. Hist.* 44 No. 3 (August 2016).

“2nd Update on Pennsylvania Manuscript Markings, Part XXI” by Tom Mazza covers Tioga, Union, and Venango Counties. *Pa. Post. Hist.* 44 No. 3 (August 2016).

Texas

Thomas Lera reviews the history of the post offices in his article, “Brewster County Post Offices.” Brewster County has a population of fewer than 10,000 but a land area larger than Delaware and Rhode Island Combines. *Tex. Post. Hist. Soc.* 41 No. 2 (May 2016).

Vermont

Bill Lizotte illustrates Vermont stampless covers incorrectly or incompletely listed in the *American Stampless Cover Catalogue*. *Vermont Phil.* 61 No. 2 (May 2016).

In “An Emergency Postmark & Telephones Connect to Fairlee,” Glenn Estus shows a cover with an “Emergency” cancel of the Railroad Mail System originating in Montpelier, Vermont. *Vermont Phil.* 61 No. 2 (May 2016).

Journal Abbreviations

Badger Post. Hist. = *Badger Postal History*, Ken Grant, E11960 Kessler Rd. Baraboo WI 53913 and William B. Robinson, 1641 Bruce Ln., Green Bay WI 54313-5503.

Collect. Club Phil = *The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Gene Fricks, 22 E. 35th St, New York NY 10016-3806

Ga. Post Roads = *Georgia Post Roads*, Douglas N. Clark, Box 427, Marstons Mills MA 02648.

Ia. Post. Hist. Soc. Bull. = *Iowa Postal History Society Bulletin*, William Dall, Box 1375, Dubuque IA 52004.

Ill. Post. Hist. = *Illinois Postal Historian*, Leonard Piskiewicz, 951 Rose Court, Santa Clara CA 95051.

La Posta = *La Posta: A Journal of American Postal History*, Peter Martin, Box 6074, Fredericksburg VA 22403.

N.C. Post. Hist. = *North Carolina Postal Historian*, Tony L. Crumbley, Box 681447, Charlotte NC 28216.

NJPH = *NJPH The Journal of New Jersey Postal History Society*, Robert G. Rose, Box 1945, Morristown NJ 07062.

Oh. Post. Hist. J. = *Ohio Postal History Journal*, Alan Borer, 568 Illinois Ct., Westerville OH 43081.

Okla. Phil. = *The Oklahoma Philatelist*, Reggie Hofmaier, 4005 Driftwood Circle, Yukon OK 73099.

Pa. Post. Hist. = *Pennsylvania Postal Historian*, Norman Shachat, 382 Tall Meadow Ln, Yardley PA 19067.

Peninsular Phil. = *The Peninsular Philatelist*, Charles A. Wood, 244 Breckenridge West, Ferndale MI 48220.

Prexie Era = *The Prexie Era*, Louis Fiset, 7554 Brooklyn Avenue NE, Seattle WA 98115-1302.

Tenn. Posts = *Tennessee Posts*, L. Steve Edmondson, P.O. Box 871, Shelton WA 98594.

Tex. Post. Hist. Soc. J. = *Texas Postal History Society Journal*, Tom Koch, 1013 Springbrook Dr., De Soto TX 75115.

Trans. Post. Coll. = *Transit Postmark Collector*, Douglas N. Clark, Box 427, Marstons Mills MA 02648.

US Spec. = *The United States Specialist*, Leonard Piskiewicz, 951 Rose Court, Santa Clara CA 95051.

Vermont Phil. = *The Vermont Philatelist*, Glenn A. Estus, Box 451 Westport NY 12993-0147.

Foreign Postal History in Other Journals

by Joseph J. Geraci

For over 26 years, Joe Geraci has been compiling these reviews. After completing this issue, he is retiring from this task, but remains on the Board. Frequently, general or specialized philatelic periodicals publish good foreign postal history articles. If one is not a member of that society or does not subscribe to that journal for one reason or another, that particularly useful article may be missed. The purpose of this compendium is to list and briefly describe as many significant foreign postal history articles as we have seen. No doubt there will be other good articles which we have missed that are equally as valuable in postal history content, and we would be obliged if our readers would call them to our attention for inclusion in the next compendium. If you know of a journal that is not included in these reviews, please let the new Associate Editor know: Daniel Piazza, National Postal Museum, P.O. Box 37012 MRC 570, Washington DC 20013-7012

General – Artifacts of Written Communication

“Paper ‘Stuff’,” by Anthony Thompson, examines selected Newfoundland stamps printed by Perkins Bacon and Waterlow during the 1930s and 1940s, and the plant species used for pulp in the production of the stamp paper. The author also indicates how to differentiate between materials used in paper production and how to identify them. (*B.N.A. Topics*, Vol. 73, No. 1, First Quarter, 2016. Official Journal of the British North American Philatelic Society, Wayne Smith, 20 St. Andrews Road, Scarborough, ON M1P 4C4, Canada.)

General - Censorship

“National and International Inconsistencies in the Use of ‘Written in ‘ ... Endorsements in the Second World War,” by David Trapnell, searches for information and documentation on covers bearing this endorsement identifying what language the contents were written in. Illustrated are covers from Italy, France, Netherlands, Germany, India, Palestine, and Egypt, where the endorsement is meant to assist the censors and facilitate the processing of the mails. (*Postal History*, No. 354, June 2015. Secretary Steve Ellis, 22 Burton Crescent, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 6BT, England, U.K.)

General - Genealogy.

“The USS *Oregon* Cover – a Genealogical Connection,” by Richard Larkin, investigates the seaman addressee shown on an 1898 cover, mailed during the U.S. blockade of Cuba, to determine if the seaman was related to the author. The author is a genealogist and shows the steps taken and resources used to investigate their relationship. (*Possessions*, No. 135, Fourth Quarter 2014. Journal of the United States Possessions Philatelic Society, Secretary Dan Ring, P.O. Box 113, Woodstock, IL 60098.)

Austria

“1858: Venezia – Trieste e ritorno, La sopratassa la doveva pagare il mittente.” (See under Lombardy Venetia.)

“Ancona – Trieste col Lloyd dopo la guerra del 1859,” by Franco Faccio and Mario Mentaschi, reviews the importance of the Austrian Lloyd Line in carrying the mails between Ancona and Trieste, and illustrates a number of covers carried by Lloyd which originated in other States and identified as carried in transit via Ancona. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 54, November 2015. Publisher Paolo Vaccari, Via M. Buonarroti 46, 41058 Vignola (MO), Modena, Italy.)

British East Africa Protectorate

“Surface Postal Rate of the East Africa Protectorate and Kenya Colony, 1901 – Independence, Part 5, Appendix, Categories of Mail, Part II,” by Victoria Archard, augments a series of articles on surface postal rates the B.E.A. presented between September 2012 and January 2015. Original source excerpts document classes of surface mail and the criteria for their uses, Illustrated. (*B.E.A. – The Bulletin of the East Africa Study Circle*, Vol. 19, No. 110, May 2015. Hon. Secretary Michael Vesey –Fitz Gerald, Gambles Cottage, 18 Clarence Road, Lyndhurst SO 43 7AL, England, U.K.) (Courtesy of David M. Frye.)

Canada

“Have Any of these Fancy Cancels?” by David Lacelle, illustrates eleven fancy cancels he is attempting to tie in with what towns used these cork cancels to obliterate stamps, and requests the reader to assist with any covers they may have, 1855-1950. The author wishes to include identification of these corks in a third edition of his forthcoming book, *Fancy Cancels on Canadian Stamps, 1855-1950*. (*B.N.A. Topics*, Vol. 73, No. 2, Second Quarter, 2016. See address of contact under General – Artifacts of Written Communication.)

“Six-cent Shortpaid Small Queen Cover to England with a Half-fine,” by William Radcliffe, discusses an 1872 cover prepaid with a 6¢ Small Queen, which turned out to be short paid because it was directed by Cunard steamer instead of the cheaper Canadian Packet. As such, the letter was due 2¢ more plus a half - fine split between the Canadian and British post offices. (*B.N.A. Topics*, Vol. 73, No. 1, First Quarter, 2016. See address of contact under General – Artifacts of Written Communication.)

“Cover Stories (18) Intercepted Mail – Part 3,” by Mike Street, continues illustrating several covers with straight line handstamps, such as “Suspected to be of fraudulent character” or “Mail for this address is prohibited” or “The person addressed is believed to be engaged in a business of a fraudulent character” or “Non-transmissible” 1893-1959. (*B.N.A. Topics*, Vol. 73, No. 2, Second Quarter, 2016. See address of contact under General – Artifacts of Written Communication.)

“Montreal International Machine Postage Due Markings,” by Rob Leigh, provides an accounting of all covers known to the author that carry the postage due machine marking , to study its format and offer a clear explanation of how it was produced, 1913-1915. (*PHSC Journal*, No. 162-163, Summer-Fall 2015. Secretary, Scott Traquair, P.O. Box 25061, RPO Hiway, Kitchener, ON N2A 4A5, Canada.)

“Postal History of Carstairs, Didsbury, and the Mennonites, Alberta,” by Dale Speirs, traces the history of several small towns located in this area of rolling hills north of Calgary, between the Rocky Mountains foot hills on the west and the prairie steppe on the east, including Carstairs, Didsbury, Cremona, Jacksville, Westcott, Garfield and Elkton, as well as the postal history of the area, 1895 - Present. (*PHSC Journal*, No. 162-163, Summer-Fall 2015. See address of contact under fourth entry for Canada.)

“Postal History of Alberta: Water Valley and District,” by Dale Speirs, continues his serial history of several small towns in western Alberta, including Water Valley, Big Prairie and Bituma. The author also illustrates a fictitious pictorial postmark supposedly used at Water Valley, applied about five years after that post office had closed. (*B.N.A. Topics*, Vol. 73, No. 2, Second Quarter, 2016. See address of contact under General – Artifacts of Written Communication.)

“B-29 P O W Mail,” by Gene M. Labiuk, digs into the history of the end of the war with Japan; shows locations of some of the P O W camps and efforts made to drop food and other articles to the prisoners after the Japanese surrender; and illustrates a cover addressed to a Canadian P O W 1945. (*PHSC Journal*, Nos. 162-163 Summer-Fall 2015. See address of contact under fourth entry for Canada.)

“P.O.D. Rules & Regulations,” by J. (Gus) Knierim, transcribes the regulations and procedures with regard to the treatment of losses of registered mail and how claims should be processed, 1948. (*PHSC Journal*, No. 162-163, Summer-Fall 2015. See address of contact under fourth entry for Canada.)

Chile

“Aspects of Chilean LATI Mail,” by Martyn Cusworth, deals with airmail service from Chile to foreign destinations during the period of December 1939 through December 1941, and includes information on outgoing postal tariffs, as well as postal tariffs on incoming mail from Germany and Spain. (*Fil-Italia*, No. 165, Summer 2015. Journal of the Italy & Colonies Study Circle, Secretary Richard Harlow, 7 Duncombe House, 8 Manor Road, Teddington, Middx. TW11 8BG, England, United Kingdom.)

Cuba

“An Overview of Expertizing Marks that are Found on Cuban Stamps,” by Ernesto Cuesta, is a useful article - while not directly concerned with postal history, it does illustrate the guarantee or expertizing marks to be found on Cuban stamps and covers, as well as those of other countries. (*Journal of Cuban Philately*, January-March 2016. International Cuban Philatelic Society, Secretary Laura Maria Herrera, P.O. Box 34434, Bethesda, MD 20827.)

“DOREMUS Machine Cancel with Spanish Text,” by Freddy Mugueria Arias, illustrates a newly discovered impression of a Doremus machine receiving cancel in the Spanish language. (*Journal of Cuban Philately*, January-March 2016. (See address of contact under first entry for Cuba.)

Czechoslovakia

“Il servizio postale regolari della L.A.T.I. sulla rotta Sud-Atlantica, (sesta parte),” by Flavio Riccitelli, reviews the background and history of the events leading up to the German annexation of Czechoslovakia, and the L.A.T.I. airline mail service from Bohemia and Moravia, and Slovakia, through Italy to South American destinations, together with illustrations of many covers, with analysis of the postal tariffs, 1938-1941. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 54, November 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

Egypt

“Prisoners of War Censorship, Middle East: Recap on Known Censor Labels & a New Discovery,” by Giorgio Migliavacca, describes two types of censor labels utilized at Cairo and Nairobi on Italian P.O.W. mail, both inscribed “PRISONERS OF WAR, CENSORSHIP MIDDLE EAST” but utilizing different type fonts, and the discovery of an example of Type IIb showing an inverted “R” in the top line of the text. (*Fil-Italia*, No. 165, Summer 2015. See address of contact under Chile.)

France

“Le armate francesi dell’est, le bizzarrie della Guerra,” by Riccardo Bertolotto, discusses the movements of the French and German military forces to the east of the Maginot Line in June 1940, and describes the movements of German General Guderian’s

forces as he passed on to the offensive and broke through the Maginot Line. Two propaganda leaflets are illustrated together with two French military covers mailed during the period. (*Il Foglio*, No .183, March 2015. See address of contact under first entry for Italy.)

Germany

“Air Mail to and from Germany between the End of W. W. II and October 1948, Parts IV, V, and VI, German Business Air Mail before May 1, 1948; JEIA Forerunners and Labels,” by Walter Farber, records the issuance of a permit label called the “JEIA” (Joint Export-Import Agency) funded under the Marshall Plan, and which when affixed to an envelope, permitted German businesses to correspond with foreign import-export firms. (*Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 95, No. 1, January-February 2016. See address of contact under Mexico.)

“Air Mail to and from Germany between the End of W. W. II and October 1948, Part VII, The ‘JEIA Period’ May 1 – October 19, 1948: FFC’s, Aerograms, and ‘Ersatzaerogramme’,” by Walter Farber, discusses the special postal stationary, postal markings, cachets and postage rates applicable to mail sent from the occupied zones during this period. (*Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 95, No. 2. March-April 2016. See address of contact under Mexico.)

Great Britain

“Ship Letter Mail and the Channel Islands (Part I),” by Richard Flemming, tells the story in chronological order of the introduction of “ship letter” handstamps that were sent to Jersey and Guernsey, 1799-1856, (*Postal History*, No. 354, June 2015. See address of contact under General – Censorship.)

“WWI UK-Communication with Enemy Countries,” by Graham Mark, examines British regulations, methods and procedures for communication with the Central Powers and their colonies - as well as with Holland and Belgium - during the Great War. (*Civil Censorship Study Group Bulletin*, No. 188, October 2015. Secretary Treasurer Dan Mayo, P.O. Box 6401, D’Iberville MS 39540.)

“Initial British Postage Due on World War I Overseas Soldiers’ Mail and Field Service Post Cards,” by R.D.Martorelli, examines the rules and regulations of the British post office with regard to British forces in France and brings to our attention the changes made in postal charges over the period of the war, and the evolution of postal cards employed by the troops. (*Military Postal History Society Bulletin*, Vol. 54, No. 4, Fall 2015. See address of contact under Vietnam.)

Italy

“Gli annulli ‘a occhiale’,” by Gioacchino Papagna, tells the story of the duplex (town name and numeral) cancellations introduced in 1866 , appearing like “eyeglasses” (also called “spectacles” or “opera glasses”). The first design of the obliteration was a dotted numeral, that is, a rectangle of dots enclosing a numeral inside, the numeral being unique to a particular post town . This type was current up to 1876 when a new type was introduced with a numeral surrounded by three bars top and bottom but with both sides open. This type was unsatisfactory so it was modified to a numeral in the center with four bars top and bottom and three short bars on each side of the numeral. These obliterations were in use until about 1899, although some towns may have used them longer. (*Il Foglio*, No .183, March 2015. Rivista dell’Unione Filatelica Subalpina, Via Petrarca 12, 10126 Torino, Italy.)

- “La posta di Firenze Capitale,” by members of the Society, is a booklet of 52 pages, published for the “Toscana 2015” exhibition at Empoli, illustrating mail sent from Firenze (Florence) to other destinations during the period of time that Firenze was the capitol of the country, 1865 to 1871, on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of that move from Torino, the old capital of the Sardinian States. Having cleared Rome of foreign occupation, the capital was moved to Rome in 1871. (*Il Monitore della Toscana*, No. 21, May 2015. Editor Alessandro Papanti, via Del Giglio 56, 50053 Empoli, (FI), Italy.)
- “Siena e dintorni fra ottocento e novecento, 1890-1920, Parte V, Siena – Quattro Cantoni (oggi Siena Suc. 3,” by Giuseppe Pallini, continues his study of Siena area datestamps, illustrating those used at branch post office No. 3, Quattro Cantoni, located in one of the oldest sections of the city, 1909-1943. (*Il Monitore della Toscana*, No. 21, May 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Italy.)
- “Il servizio postale regolari della L.A.T.I. sulla rotta Sud-Atlantica, (sesta parte).” (See under Czechoslovakia.)
- “Aspects of Chilean LATI Mail.” (See under Chile.)
- “Brevi note di storia ed esempi di posta degli uffici postali ‘minori’ dell’occupazione italiana in Francia nella il Guerra Mondiale, (Fontano – Monginevro e ... Sééz),” by Valter Astolfi, provides a history of the occupation area and notices some inconsistencies in the establishment of civil post offices in Italian occupied France. The population of Mentone (Menton) was 21,700, Fontana (Fontan) was 700 and Mongenivro (Mont-Genèvre) was only 150, with Sééz boasting about 2,100 inhabitants. Yet no civilian town markings are known from Sééz. Frequently, however, mail to or from Sééz is routed “via Porto Littoria” (La Thuile), a town which which did have a civilian datestamp, 1940-1943. (*Posta Militare e Storia Postale*, No. 134, April 2015. Rivista dell’ Associazione Italiana Collezionisti Posta Militare, President Piero Macrelli, CP 180, 47900 Rimini, Italy.)
- “Le relazioni postali tra Italia e Francia, giugno 1940/ settembre 1943 (seconda parte),” by Luigi Sirotti, provides maps which break the occupied zone into six zones, showing where each town or village is located. Details including population for each town or locality are given, together with other useful information. (*Posta Militare e Storia Postale*, No. 134, April 2015. See address of contact under sixth entry for Italy.)
- “Betasom Revisited,” by John Leathes, follows up on an earlier study of the history and postal history of the Italian submarine base at Bordeaux, France, from October 1940 through September 1943. (*Fil-Italia*, No. 165, Summer 2015. See address of contact under Chile.)
- “La flotta spolpata, la Marina italiana e il Trattato di pace del 10 febbraio 1947,” by Giancarlo Vecchi, examines the distribution of the remainder, the still intact portion of the Italian Navy by the victorious powers, Great Britain, France, Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Greece and Albania, identifying which vessels were acquired by each nation, under the terms of the Peace Treaty of 10 February 1947. (*Posta Militare e Storia Postale*, No. 134, April 2015. See address of contact under sixth entry for Italy.)
- “Tariffa ridotta per la spedizione all’estero delle carte geografiche,” by Eliza Gardinazzi, illustrates a list of nations where a tariff of 6 Lire could cover postal costs if a map weighed 50 grammes or less, or 12 Lire if over 50 grammes, from 1 September 1951

through 1 October 1957. Later instances of reduced tariffs for map transmission are also discussed. (*Il Foglio*, No. 184, June 2015. See address of contact under first entry for Italy.)

Japan

“A Letter Bearing a Dragon Stamp that Went Abroad: Appearance of Significant Letters of Jourdan Correspondence,” by Matsumoto Jun Ichi, introduces the reader to a new find, the discovery of a fabulous combination cover bearing a 1 sen postage stamp, paying the internal rate, together with four 25 centime French postage stamps paying the international rate, for a letter addressed to Lyon, France, within a correspondence addressed to France, 1872. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 412, August 2015. International Society for Japanese Philately, Assistant Publisher, Lee R. Wilson, 4216 Jenifer Street N.W., Washington, DC.)

“Delayed by River Obstruction,” [by Ron Casey], illustrates three auxiliary postmarks indicating the mail was delayed due to flooding, or river obstruction, 1906. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 413, October 2015. See address of contact under first entry for Japan.)

“Nan’yo LCD’s, Update,” by George Baka, includes a table of Large Commemorative Datestamps applied at the various individual post offices in the South Sea Islands, 1915-1943. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 412, August 2015. See address of contact under first entry for Japan.)

“Nan’yo Unissued LCD Used at Jaluit,” by George Baka, locates further information concerning the Large Commemorative Datestamp (LCD) intended for use to commemorate the marriage of Crown Prince Hirohito and Crown Princess Nagako, which was postponed to January 1924, due to the Great Earthquake which struck Japan in November 1923. The earthquake destroyed all the commemorative stamps and postcards in Japan, except for a small quantity sent to the South Seas Mandated Islands (Nan’yo). The Communications Ministry requested that the commemorative stamps and postcards be returned to them, but it seems that only a portion of what was sent, was returned. The author concludes with an illustration of the LCD used at Jaluit, 1924. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 413, October 2015. See address of contact under first entry for Japan.)

“Monograph 21 – Latest Update,” by Ron Casey, provides illustrations and commentary concerning newly discovered Large Commemorative Datestamps (LCD’s), which supplement those listed in Monograph 21. They include (#61) “Special Grand Military Manoeuvres 1937”; (#143) “Commemorating Air Defense Manoeuvres” conducted in the Kanmon and Northern Kyushu Area in 1931; (#27) “Commemorating Launch of Warship *Kawachi* at the Yokosuka Naval Shipyard”, and (#105) “Commemoration of the visit in May 1926 of Crown Prince Hirohito to the Sanyo District.” (*Japanese Philately*, No. 412, August 2015. See address of contact under first entry for Japan.)

“The Missing Karl Lewis Link,” by Todd Lewis, presents information which shows that Karl Lewis used the facilities of a mailing agent in the Dutch East Indies to post his prepared covers to Lewis’ clients, 1933-1940. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 411, June 2015. See address of contact under first entry for Japan.)

Jugoslavia

“Gli scambi della corrispondenza tra province orientali del Regno [Italiano] ed ex Regno di Jugoslavia, April 1941 – settembre 1943, (prima parte),” by Luigi Sirotti, provides

several maps of Yugoslavia, shows the dismemberment of the country, illustrates the Italian censor markings utilized, provides a table of old and new names for various towns under Italian control, and describes the special situations of Fiume and Zara. “(Seconda parte)” continues his study concerning the exchange of mail between Italy, and the former Kingdom of Yugoslavia, by illustrating two additional maps together with censor markings that were applied to mail. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 53, May 2015 + No. 54, Nov. 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

Kuwait

“Overland Mail, Baghdad – Haifa, Mail from Kuwait,” by Rainer Fuchs, attempts to create a census of known covers, and identify the applicable postage rates for this mail service, 1924-1936. (*The Levant*, Vol. 8, No. 2, May 2015, Journal of the Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, Secretary Rolfe Smith, 705 SE Sandia Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL 34983.)

Lombardy Venetia

“I rapporti postal del Regno Lombardo Veneto con il Regno delle Due Sicilie, 1815-1866, A Napoli e poi in Sicilia arrivano I francobolli, (quarta parte),” by Lorenzo Carra, examines mail between Lombardy Venetia and the Kingdoms of Sicily and Naples, with emphasis on postal rates on the covers illustrated, which tie in with the Two Sicilies royal decree of 28 September 1857, together with the issuance of postage stamps in Naples in 1858, and in Sicily in 1859, together with the change in Austrian currency from centesimi to soldi, which affected postal rates. The War of 1859 freed Lombardy from Austrian rule, permitting the introduction of Sardinian rates in Lombardy and, similarly, in Sicily in 1860. “(Quinto parte)” continues his study of currency changes in postal rates, illustrates postal rates between Sicily, Naples and Lombardy - both before and after 17 March 1861, when the Kingdom of Italy was declared - and also shows a 5 grana Neapolitan Provinces stamp cancelled “Pavia [Lombardy], 27 June 1862”; also a spectacular cover bearing 20 examples of the 1/2 tornese Neapolitan Provinces, equal to 20 centesimi, canceled at Milano [Lombardy], 5 April 1862. (*Vaccari Magazine*, Nos. 53, May 2015 + No. 54, Nov. 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“Gli annulli circolari di Milano su tre righe,” by Luca Savini, studies a particular type of three lined datestamp used in Milan, from 1848 through 1859, and identifies several distinct types of datestamps. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 54, November 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“Isolati & per città,” by Diego Carraro, looks at mail franked with a single postage stamp, which was posted to an address locally within the same city of posting, including Modena, Naples, Neapolitan Provinces, and Parma. Local rates are very difficult to find, 1850-1865. (*Vaccari Magazine*, Nos. 53, May 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“1858: Venezia – Trieste e ritorno, La sopratassa la doveva pagare il mittente,” by Heinrich Stumvoll, reviews a short paid letter which was sent on to Trieste on which the addressee refused to pay the shortfall. The letter was stamped with the rare handstamp “AB” meaning “Abzug” or “deduction in price” from the financial records of the Trieste post office and returned to that office. (*Vaccari Magazine*, Nos. 53, May 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“Notizie dal bellunese: il ‘Periodo Municipale di Belluno dal 12 luglio al 19 agosto 1866,”

by Marco Di Bisi, details the history of the Veneto region from 12 July, when Austrian forces left Belluno, and 19 August, when the Royal Italian High Commissioner arrived at Belluno, and shows that mail from the region was not unnecessarily interrupted by the change in regimes. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 184, April 2015. Organo Ufficiale del'Associazione per lo Studio della Storia Postale, Editor Adriano Cattani, Casella Postale 325, I-35100 Padova, Italy.)

Malta

“Maltese Falcons – Grand Masters Letters to the King of the Two Sicilies,” by Alfred Bonnici, provides background concerning a textual error which has come down to us beginning about 1858, that the Knights of Malta were required to present ONE falcon or hawk as a gift to the Spanish Viceroy of Sicily each year on All Saints Day (November 1). However, a mistake was made in the translation of the cession document into English, where the quantity of falcons or hawks to be gifted was translated as ONE instead of SIX, which was the quantity stated in the original document. The letters of transmission from 1738, 1741, 1760, 1764, 1786 and 1793 are all illustrated and state six falcons or hawks were to be gifted. (*The MPS Journal*, Vol. 45, No. 1, April 2016. Philatelic Society of Malta, Secretary Treasurer John A. Cardona, 56Triq Santa Marija, Tarxien TXN 1703, Malta.)

“Stamped Covers to Malta from Pre-unification Italian States,” by Giovanni Bonello, illustrates five covers addressed to Malta, one each from Sardinia (1857), Sicily (1859), Tuscany (1859), Austria (1862) and Roman States (1870), and totals up the amount of postage paid on each cover. (*The MPS Journal*, Vol. 45, No. 1, April 2016. See address of contact under the first entry for Malta.)

“The Farthing Negative Mark of the 1920s,” by Albert Ganado, illustrates and discusses a handstamped mark applied on a newspaper wrapper indicting one farthing postage had been paid, and identifies two different types. (*The MPS Journal*, Vol. 45, No. 1, April 2016. See address of contact under the first entry for Malta.)

Mexico

“‘On the Wings of a Dream’,” by Mark Banchik, explores the background and early aviation history behind a May 1928 airmail cover sent from San Luis Potosi to a prominent stamp dealer in New York City, bearing a red, white and blue label indicating “Via Air Mail,” which was apparently applied at the United States Exchange Office at Laredo, Texas. (*Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 95, No. 1, January-February 2016. The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York, NY 10016.)

Modena

“Convenzione per lo scambio delle corrispondenze fra il Ducato di Modena e i paesi limitrofi (periodo Austro -Estense),” by Giuseppe Buffagni, discusses a letter to the Minister of Finance in Modena concerning the hours and days mail will be transported to various northern Italian towns, and shows a fine map of a portion of the area served, together with the roads between towns, 1823. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 184, April 2015. See address of contact under sixth entry for Lombardy Venetia.)

“Cenni sui rapporti postali con l'estero dei Dipartimenti del Panaro e del Crostolo, Paesi italiani, Francia, Inghilterra e qualche altro, (1798-1814) [terza parte],” by Fabrizio Salami, discusses the Accord of 1769 between France, Milano and the Fischer Post of Berne outlining the postal tariffs in force, and describes four post routes: one via

the Sempione Pass, the second via Lyon, the third was a variation via Parma, and the fourth via Moncenisio in Savoy. Several tables of postal tariffs are shown, including French internal tariffs, and combined French and Italian tariffs in decimes and tariffs on mail sent postage due to France. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 54, Nov. 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“Richiesta accordata per una nuova tassazione per le lettere in ricezione nell’ufficio di Fosdinovo,” by Giuseppe Buffagni, provides the background behind the addition of an extra 20 or 40 cent. tax upon letters originating in the Romagna, addressed to Fosdinovo, which traveled via Massa, 1829-1832. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 185, June 2015. See address of contact under sixth entry for Lombardy Venetia.)

“Moduli di reclamo e discarico,” by Emilio Simonazzi, illustrates and discusses the forms used for claiming mail and that which a witness completed for the post office, 1854-1856. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 54, Nov. 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

Netherlands

“Airmail Surcharges (1941) to Non-European Countries,” by Hans Kremer, provides a table of airmail surcharges to be added to regular postage costs to countries, which are shown in alphabetical order, and notes the air routes utilized. (*Netherlands Philately*, Vol. 39, No. 4, May 2015. Magazine of the American Society for Netherlands Philately, Secretary Ben H. Jansen, 1308 Pin Oak Drive, Dickinson, TX 77539-3400.)

Netherlands East Indies

“W. H. Medhurst, Missionary in Java and China: The Meeting of Postal and Social History in a Letter from 1842,” by Allan F. Westphall, examines a letter from an English Protestant missionary sent from Batavia to the London Missionary Society with the view of making some observations concerning its contents, its route, and the vessel that carried it, this article being the result of intense and careful research, where the author explains his sources of information. (*Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 94, No 1, July-August 2015. See address of contact under Mexico.)

“The Netherlands East Indies, 1939-1942, Censorship in Surabaya, Part III,” by Suburo Masuyama, illustrates a large number of covers originating from Surabaya, and explains the censorship markings and identifies the resealing tapes applied to each one of them. (*Netherlands Philately*, Vol. 39, No. 4, May 2015. See address of contact under Netherlands.)

New Brunswick

“Significant Transatlantic Covers; Stolen from – and Returned to-Archives,” by Derek Smith, illustrates four covers (1793-1802) which he determined had been stolen from the Saunders Papers, located at the University of New Brunswick Library/Archives, and a fifth cover claimed by the St. John Museum. The legal principle of *Replevin* allows the rightful owner of stolen property to sue for its return. Not wishing to retain stolen property, the author contacted the University of New Brunswick Library to make arrangements for the return of its covers. The fifth cover, dated 1795 and written by Benedict Arnold, was also returned to the St. John Museum. (*B.N.A. Topics*, Vol. 73, No. 2, Second Quarter, 2016. See address of contact under General – Artifacts of Written Communication.)

Newfoundland

“Late Letters and the Newfoundland Mails, Part 1,” by David Piercey, deals with the handling of late letters posted at the General Post Office in St. John’s and with the changes in the late fee amounts charged to the public both for internal mail, and mail destined to be handed in to a steamer departing shortly, 1860-1896. (*PHSC Journal*, Nos. 162-163, Summer-Fall 2015. See address of contact under fourth entry for Canada.)

“The St. John’s East Post Office,” by David Piercey, traces the history of the establishment of a second downtown Branch Office in the eastern part of St. John’s, 1892-1924. (*B.N.A. Topics*, Vol. 73, No. 2, Second Quarter, 2016. See address of contact under General – Artifacts of Written Communication.)

“Paper ‘stuff’.” (See under General - Artifacts of Written Communication.)

Romagna

“Romagne ... buste manipulate,” by Guido Morolli, identifies two covers which have had stamps either added or removed and traces them back to earlier auction sales where they were depicted with stamps added. The author carefully determines what the postal rates were to identify the “improved” covers. (*Vaccari Magazine*, Nos. 53, May 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“Isolati & per città (seconda parte).” (See under Roman States.)

Roman States

“Gli Uffici di posta estera in Roma,” by Adriano Cattani, discusses the foreign post offices located in Rome, which were the places where that countries’ couriers were based. The various offices were: the Post of Spain, the Post of Naples, the Post of Portugal, the Post of Milan, the Post of Austria, the Post of France, the Post of Venice, the Post of Florence, the Post of Genova and the Post of Torino - all within the period 1499-1757. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 185, June 2015. See address of contact under sixth entry for Lombardy Venetia.)

“Cenni sul rapporti postali con l’estero dei Dipartimenti del Panaro e dl Crostolo, Paesi italiani, francia, inghilterra e qualche altro, 1798-1814, (secondo parte),” by Fabrizio Salami, discusses the reopening of the posts between the Napoleonic Republic of Italy and France, Milano, Genova, Firenze, Lucca, Napoli, Venezia, Torino and Spain and provides tables of tariffs to or from each, as well as a table of days the couriers departed or arrived from each route. (*Vaccari Magazine*, Nos. 53, May 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“Un approfondimento sulle tariffe napoleoniche delle lettere dagli ‘Stati Romani’ alle ‘Marche’ e viceversa dalla seconda occupazione francese all’occupazione Murat, (Prima parte),” by Guido Latini, studies the postal tariffs applicable upon mail between the former Roman States, (consisting of Rome and Lazio), and what closely resembles the present province of Marche (which included Ancona, Urbino, Macerata and Camerino), and provides six tables of tariffs, covering the period 1803-1809. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 187, November 2015. See address of contact under sixth entry for Lombardy Venetia.)

“La corrispondenza tra lo Stato Pontificio e le ‘Province Usurpate’, (Prima parte),” by Massimo Manzoni and Giuliano Podrin. While there was no postal convention between Italy and the Pontifical States for the exchange of mail, the authors do identify the points where mail was unofficially exchanged, each side charging postage due for the portion of its territory traversed, 1859-1861. “(Seconda parte)” continues their

examination of postal tariffs on mail exchanged between Sardinia, and the occupied Papal provinces of Romagna, Marche, Umbria and Sabina, as well as tariffs for registration and printed matter. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 53, May 2015 + No. 54 Nov. 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“La corrispondenza tra lo Stato Pontificio e le ‘Province Usurpate’,” (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 54, Nov. 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“Isolati & per città (seconda parte),” by Diego Carraro, shows examples of and illustrates local and within-the-city rates for mail, including examples of Roman States, Romagna, Sardinia, Sicily and Tuscany, 1857-1870. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 54, Nov. 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“Rapporti postali tra Regno d’Italia e Stato Pontificio, il periodo tra il 21 settembre e il 1º ottobre 1867,” by Massimo Moritsch, looks at the rates of postage established by the Italy-Pontifical States Postal Convention, effective 1 October 1867, and the 10 day period between the issuance of a new series of postage stamps denominated in centesimi, on 21 September, and the first effective date of the new convention. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 54, Nov. 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

St. Lucia

“St. Lucia’s Rare Mixed Currency Frankings,” by Guy Kilburn, discusses mixed currency frankings which occurred when the colony changed from the pound sterling to decimal currency in 1948, and how difficult it is to find covers with mixed frankings even though usage was possible up to February 25, 1954. (*British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, No. 259, April - June 2016. British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group, Secretary Mary Gleadall, 394 Kanasgowa Dr., Connestee Falls, Brevard, NC 28712.)

“A Visit to St. Lucia is Never Complete without Visiting Post Offices,” by Andrew Mitchell, illustrates eleven small post offices on the island and illustrates inked postal markings from various of these offices. (*British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, No. 259, April - June 2016. See address of contact under first entry for St. Lucia.)

Sardinia

“Cavallini e plichi sotto fascia,” by Umberto Hess, looks at the postal reform introduced by the Royal Edict of 12 August 1818, and the Royal Patent of 7 November 1818, which provided for the emission of three designs (15 cent., 25 cent., and 50cent.) on private stationery, which became known as the “Cavallini” (little horsemen/a cherub on horseback), including one “postmarked” Fossano, impressed on a remainder letter sheet of the 50 cent. denomination. The world’s first postal stationery. (*Il Foglio*, No. 184, June 2015. See address of contact under first entry for Italy.)

“La carta postale bollata del Regno di Sardegna: breve storia dei ‘cavallini sardi’ e analisi di un cavallino raccomandato,” by Adriano Cattani, provides background history to the issuance of these first stamped papers, illustrates the Royal patents which established the two issues, and discusses an example of a rare registered letter, 1818-1836. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 187, November 2015. See address of contact under sixth entry for Lombardy Venetia.)

“Tariffe di ‘Raggio Limitrofo’ tra il Ducato di Savoia e la Svizzera,” by Giovanni Boschetti, looks at the postal tariffs in force for mail crossing the border, including the special rates for mail traveling within the first region (raggio), between Sardinia and Switzerland, from 1851 through 1859. (*Vaccari Magazine*, Nos. 53, May 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“Cenni sui rapporti postali con l'estero dei Dipartimenti del Panaro e del Crostolo, Paesi italiani, Francia, Inghilterra e qualche altro, (1798-1814) [prima parte].” (See under Modena.)

“Il bollo a rombi di Sardegna e gli annulli a penna,” by Stefano Alessio, looks at the use of “rombi” (a rectangular grid of dots used as an obliteration) on Sardinian stamps, and the use of pen cancellations on those letters which apparently escaped being postmarked. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 54, November 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“La convenzione del 1853 fra governo Sardo e Compagnia Transatlantica. La vita della transatlantica e la posta che trasporto,” by Georgio Magnani, goes through this convention, article by article, and explains their significance in establishing a subsidized line of steam navigation vessels between Genova and New York, and between Genova and several European and South American ports, to carry passengers, freight and the mails. The author also discusses postal tariffs and illustrates many interesting covers, and steamer arrival cut-outs from the newspaper “Il Corriere Mercantile” of Genova. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 53, May 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Austria.)

“Isolati & per città, (seconda parte)” (See under Roman States.)

Sweden

“Gun Running & Blockade Busting During World War I: A Stockholm – New York Connection,” by John McKay, tells the story of John McGregor Grant and his illicit operations, as well as his connection with Sidney Reilly, “Ace of Spies,” based upon the censored cover illustrated from Stockholm and addressed to J.M. Grant, Managing Director, Swedish-Russo-Asiatic Company, New York. (*The Posthorn*, No. 285, November 2015. The Scandinavian Collectors Club, Secretary Alan Warren, P. O. Box 39, Exton, PA 19341-0039.)

Switzerland

“World War II Chemical Censorship of Swiss Mail,” by Charles J. LaBlonde, discusses signs of censorship strokes and application of chemical censorship on mail to or from the United States, not only involving the United States, but also other countries such as Argentina, Cuba, Sweden and Uruguay. (*Civil Censorship Study Group Bulletin*, No. 188, October 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Great Britain.)

Tanganyika

“Tanganyika Traveling Post Office – Part 3,” by Eric Coulton, investigates the traveling post offices (TPOs) that moved the mail in Tanganyika from Daressalaam to Kigoma and Mwanza, between January 1929 and February 1932. Color illustrations of covers show destinations, cancellations and registry labels. (*B.E.A. – The Bulletin of the East Africa Study Circle*, Vol. 19, No. 110, May 2015. See address of contact under British East Africa Protectorate.) (Courtesy of David M. Frye.)

Trinidad

“The ‘Lady McLeod,’ History and Research,” by Gregory Frantz, provides the background and history behind the printing of this undenominated adhesive label depicting the steamship *Lady McLeod* which was put on the route between Port of Spain and San Fernando in 1845. (*British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, No. 259, April - June 2016. See address of contact under first entry for St. Lucia.)

Turkey

“The Fez is Decreed Away,” by Jeremy Seal, has nothing to do with postal history, but is a very interesting article outlining the abolition of the fez, except for some clergy, by Kamal Atatürk in 1925, as part of his program to modernize Turkey, and do away with the chains binding Turkey to the past. The author describes the frantic male population of Istanbul searching for hats to wear so that they would not be arrested on November 25, when persons wearing a fez could no longer wear them. Any kind of hat would do, whether a bowler, homburg, panama, flatcar, or balaclava. Articles even appeared in the newspapers on how to properly wear a hat. (*The Levant*, Vol. 8, No. 2, May 2015. See address of contact under Kuwait.)

Tuscany

“La posta Toscana trasportata dai corrieri genovesi per Roma,” by Pietro Giribone, considers the mail carried by the Genovese couriers, and the route they traveled between Rome, Florence and Genova, with stops along the way in smaller cities, and shows how this line of couriers amalgamated with other couriers from France, Milan and Savoy, 1586-1805. The couriers continued to operate during the establishment of the Republic of Liguria, created by Napoleon, and even after the Republic of Liguria was annexed to France in 1805. (*Il Monitore della Toscana*, No. 21, May 2015. See address of contact under second entry for Italy.)

“La posta granducale sulle strade ferrate,” by Franco Canepa, provides a map of railway routes within Tuscany circa 1850, as well as the background and history behind the development of each railway line, and the postal markings applied to mail traveling on each line, with a chronological tabulation of all the rail lines within Tuscany, 1844-1866. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 185, June 2015. See address of contact under sixth entry for Lombardy Venetia.)

“Isolati & per città, (seconda parte).” (See under Roman States.)

Two Sicilies - Naples

“I rapporti postal del Regno Lombardo Veneto con il Regno delle Due Sicilie, 1815-1866, A Napoli e poi in Sicilia arrivano I francobolli, (quarta + quinto parte).” (See under Lombardy Venetia.)

“Isolati & per città”, (seconda parte).” (See under Roman States.)

Two Sicilies - Sicily

“La nascita del servizio postale con *vetture corriere* ed i primi esempi di cartografia postale in Sicilia,” by Giorgio Chianetta, tells the story of the birth of mail carriage through the postal reform of 1838, which established a regular service by postal coach, or diligence, on the routes Palermo – Messina and via Catania, on one side, and on the other, Palermo – Trapani. Three postal maps are illustrated showing the routes mentioned, as well as plans for construction of two post stations, located about 7 to 12 Sicilian miles apart along the route, where horses could be changed. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 187, November 2015. See address of contact under sixth entry for Lombardy Venetia.)

Vatican City

“Vatican City Censored Mail, A Survey,” by Greg Pirozzi, provides a comprehensive overview of Italian, German and Allied mail censorship as practiced on Vatican mail, 1940-1952, with many rare and unusual uses depicted. Many interesting markings are illustrated. (*Vatican Notes*, Vol. 63, No. 364, Second Quarter 2015. Official Organ

of the Vatican Philatelic Society, Secretary Joseph Scholten, 1436 Johnston St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507-2829.)

“Council of Trent Issues – Postal History,” by James Hamilton, illustrates and describes many covers and identifies what the postal rates were for the various destinations these covers represent. Two tables are shown: one for the postal rates of the Council of Trent issues; and selected postal rate tables, 1945-1948. (*Vatican Notes*, Vol. 63, No. 366, Fourth Quarter 2015. See address of contact under first entry for Vatican City.)

Venetian Republic

“Percorsi, tassazioni e tariffe postali da e per l'estero, La Posta di Milano,” by Giorgio Burzatta, transcribes the 1755 Convention between the Company of Venetian Couriers and the Royal Office of the Posts of Milan which lays out the tariffs on letters and small packets and provides tables of the many tariff changes between 1630 and 1790. Many interesting covers are illustrated and explained. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 184, April 2015. See address of contact under sixth entry for Lombardy Venetia.)

Vietnam

“An Introduction to the Military Postal System of the North Vietnam Army and the Viet Cong,” by Daniel M. Telep, describes his interest in the operation of the North Vietnamese postal system, and the information that a rare captured mail courier's delivery and receipt book provided, 1966. (*Military Postal History Society Bulletin*, Vol. 54, No. 4, Fall 2015. Secretary Louis Fiset, P.O. Box 15927, Seattle, WA 98115-0927.)

COVER ILLUSTRATION: A 1937 mural on canvas by Stuyvesant Van Veen called *Pittsburgh Panorama*, at the U.S. Courthouse and Post Office on Grant Street, Pittsburgh. [photograph: Library of Congress highsm.o2538]. Van Veen (1910-1988) painted many murals for the WPA and had submitted two designs for this building. One was considered too bleak, but the apparent celebratory image of Pittsburgh's industrial might concealed an anti-Capitalist symbol. The newly inaugurated George Westinghouse Memorial Bridge (1932) provides a parade of, in the artist's words: “smart cars and smart people, trucks and laborers, tramps and buses, everyone who made up the population of that industrial melting-pot of nations and classes.” But Van Veen avowedly manipulated the bend in the river so that the finished image would resemble the Communist hammer and sickle. In defiance of federal procedure, he drove the canvas from New York to Pittsburgh and installed the work himself at the last possible moment. [Sylvia Rhor, Ph.D. on Pittsburghartplaces.org.; also Marlene Park & Gerald E. Markowitz in *Democratic Vistas*, Temple University Press 1984, page 59] Van Veen's less rebellious works include the 1963 Ebbets Field apartments mural series *Memorial to Brooklyn Dodgers* and the 1939 New York World's Fair Hall of Pharmacy mural. His comic book art appeared under the pseudonyms Joe Lozen, Jack Camden, and Lester Raye. His papers are held by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. Shown here is the artist at work on the Pittsburgh mural.



More Arrivals and Departures of Italian Steamers

a review by Joseph J. Geraci

Storia della Navigazione a Vapore e dei Servizi Postali sul Mediterraneo, Volume II, 1840-1850, by Alessandro Arseni, in Italian, 11 3/4 x 8 1/4 inches, 192 pages, softbound, glued spine. ISBN: 978-88-907450-2-7. Euros 60 plus postage, inquire first for shipping costs: *The Postal Gazette*, Via al Generoso 3, 6821 Rovio, Switzerland, or email: <info@thepostalgazette.com>

As we mentioned in reviewing Volume I of this series, Alessandro Arseni has now, after twenty years of research, published Volume II of a projected five part series concerning the steam navigation companies operating on the Mediterranean Sea. Edited by the well-known postal historian, Bruno Crevato-Selvaggi, Volume II covers the period 1840 to 1850. Succeeding volumes will cover further time periods, such as 1850 to 1860, and so on.

Volume II includes extensive tables of dates of arrival and departure of steamers in service, transiting the ports of Marseille, Genova, Livorno (Leghorn), Civitavecchia (Roma), Napoli, Messina, Palermo, Cagliari (Sardinia), Bastia (Corsica) and Malta, as well as some minor ports, all extracted from seven major commercial newspapers of the day which published maritime news. Volume II consists of about 21,500 sailing and arrival dates. Arseni's painstaking research should enable maritime mail collectors to identify the names of vessels for many letters not showing the name of the vessel which carried it.

King Ferdinand of Two Sicilies' maritime fleet was increased during this period, while privately owned steam navigation companies also strengthened their positions. The history of the growth and demise of the Tuscan steamship companies are documented. The story of the Valery Bros. Steam Packet Company (a French line) which monopolized the sea route between Bastia and Livorno is also reviewed.

As with Volume I, much of Volume II consists of histories of the steamship companies and their vessels. Illustrations in full color include covers, postal notices, advertisements of sailing dates, the vessels themselves, people associated with the steamship companies and reproductions of postal Decrees and Conventions of the Kingdom of Two Sicilies and of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, for the period 1840 to 1850.

This volume also includes an Index of Vessels mentioned in the text, together with their nationality, so one may easily review the history of each vessel.

Highly recommended to collectors of maritime mail. Much of these volumes consist of sailing tables, so even if one does not read Italian, useful information will still be recognized.

**The 2015 volume of the Postal History Journal
was awarded a vermeil medal at StampShow in Portland.**

**"Well researched and referenced articles with a wide variety of
subjects both traditional and unusual."**

**Strong recommendation that the article abstracts be published
on the website, and that an index be prepared.**

A proposal for digitizing back issues is being prepared by the Board.



Certificate presented, along with a gift of two maps ("Cape Colony, and Natal" 1884, published by Marcus Ward, from Heroes of South African Discovery, by N. D'Anvers; and "The Union of South Africa" 1938, from the Stieler Hand-Atlas), to Kalman Illyefalvi at the Sunday morning awards ceremony of Balpex, September 4. Kal's very low membership number shows how venerable his status! (new membership numbers are now in the 2500s). Kal has put in more volunteer hours at society information booths at shows than we could count; he served on the Board of Directors for many terms; and was Secretary/Treasurer for over two decades.

Society Forum

This space is set aside for commentary, announcements, questions and other information by, for and about members of the Postal History Society. The editors welcome correspondence: Box 477, West Sand Lake NY 12196, <agatherin@yahoo.com>

President's Message - Yamil Kouri

As I write these lines, even though I am still a little “hungover” after the busy World Stamp Show NY2016 and Stampshow 2016 in Portland, it is not difficult to name my favorite highlight among the many there were to choose from during these two wonderful events. With a great deal of pride I was able to admire how our editors, Diane DeBlois and Robert Dalton Harris, received the American Philatelic Society Luff Award for distinguished philatelic research. The moment they signed the scroll was captured in the photo below (photo by Jay Bigalke, courtesy of the American Philatelic Society, stamps.org). You can find more information about our editors' accomplishments here: <http://stamps.org/NewsItemDetail.aspx?id=136>.

Our next formal meeting is planned for Philatelic Show 2017 in Boxborough (<http://www.nefed.org/>).



Ships to Grenada and Barbados?

Glenn de Roche writes: “I recently purchased Phil J. Kenton & Harry G. Parsons excellent book on the RMSP. Does anyone know where I can find passenger lists for the ships to Grenada and Barbados. My family are from the Grenadines and I want to trace our Scottish ancestors who probably used the service (considering James McQueen had estates on Carriacou and Grenada this is not farfetched). I work for Canada Post and can identify with this wanderlust. I'd be very appreciative of any help. Leontine2807@sympatico.ca.”

Postcard in a Bottle

The Manuscript Society News of the 3rd quarter 2016 reported on the oldest message in a bottle ever found (verified by *Guinness*): In the first decade of the 20th century George Parker Bidder dropped more than a thousand bottles into the North Sea, each containing a message offering a modest reward to anyone returning the accompanying numbered postcard – on behalf of The Marine Biological Association in Plymouth. Apparently, Bidder had a 55% return from local fishermen. But postcard Number 57 took 108 years, four months, and 18 days to arrive at Amrum Island along the German North Sea coast.

Father of Ocean Penny Postage

The Darling Biomedical Library at UCLA holds an 1881 almanac for Globe Pills (a nostrum to cure all ills) that reprinted Elihu Burritt's story of his life as *The Village Blacksmith* (perhaps the inspiration for Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's 1840 poem). In a biographical note extolling Burritt's life (he died in 1879) apart from literature appears: *The forty years of active life that succeeded the achievements so graphically recorded were given to great philanthropic movements, such as 'The Brotherhood of Nations,' 'Ocean Penny Postage,' and Compensated Emancipation, in the agitation of which Mr. Burritt kept two continents in active remembrance of him while he lived. He was a man of uncommon industry; of clear, logical mind, using plain words to express his meaning, and having strong convictions upon all public questions. Although John Brown's raid put a stop to his emancipation schemes, and the nation chose to blot out slavery by fire and blood rather than pay for the slaves and set them free, and although the peace movement has not yet made wars unknown, yet slavery is nor more. International Arbitration has become an established fact, and the existence and beneficent operations of the 'Universal Postal Union' is a suitable response to the agitation of 'Ocean Penny Postage.'*



Lot 1577 of the Siegel Sale of The Louis Grunin Collection of Illustrated Covers - an 1850 letter sent from Burritt in Worcester MA to a social reformer in Scotland.

Postal Valentine



Frames 319-320 of the Invited Class of exhibits at World Stamp Show 2016 in New York showcased some extraordinary Valentines - *Expressions of Love* from the collection of **Dale Forster**. Fellow valentine collector **Nancy Rosin** noticed the valentine here in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. David Mossman (1825-1901) was a lace paper maker in England, whose creations were made into valentines on both sides of the Atlantic. Pictured is one made around 1850 by Esther Howland with Mossman paper that illustrates a post rider. He is shown with a letter in one hand, a post horn in the other, in a chariot shaped like a shell drawn through the clouds by doves. The design is similar to others but with the messenger a Cupid, not a Postie.

Revolutionary War Letter

David Hobden has a Revolutionary War Prisoner of War letter dated 1779, written by John B[erian] Riker to his wife Susannah at Rockey Hill [Somerset Co., New Jersey]. Here is a transcript: Address leaf - *Mrs. Susannah Riker / At / Rockey Hill. / Dear Susan, On Tuesday the 26th instant as we were returning home from Cheesquaks [Middlesex County, East New Jersey] fell in with and were made prisoners, by a party of the British Troops, by whom we were treated with ever much of decentness prisoners could by any means expect. We are now in New York, all in good Health, where are very well supplied with every thing necessary. Make yourself as happy as you Can, and I hope all things will work Together for good, from yours, John B. Riker / Jack Berian joins me in love and presents to all friends. Jack Berian desires Col Van Dyke would make use of all his interest to effect his exchange. / New York October 31 1779 / Mr Oppee's wagon loaded with oysters with some other things was left at the Widow Lotts. You need not send any thing to me for I shall be supplied.* On Christmas night, 1776, Riker, who was a doctor, had been awakened by the Virginia Infantry under the command of the 18-year old James Monroe. Riker joined the group, and was able to save Monroe's life at the battle of Trenton (the battle scene, with George Washington on his horse, and Riker saving Monroe, appears in a painting by John Trumbull (1756-1843) *The Capture of the Hessians at Trenton, December 26, 1776* - see illustration.) Riker remained with Washington and was commissioned as a surgeon of the 4th Battalion of New Jersey troops in February 1777. Mr. Hobden's letter reveals

a hitherto unknown period in Riker's life when he was imprisoned by the British - however pleasantly. When peace was established in 1783, it is recorded that Dr. Riker remained on Long Island and practiced medicine there until his death in 1794, at the age of 57. (Julie Gianakon, Thomas Jefferson University, *Doctor Riker's Decision*, www.hektoeninternational.org.)



20 1/8" x 30" oil on canvas [Yale University Art Gallery]

Delivery by Map

Dick Sheaff sent us to the BBC news blog of August 31 covering the story of a letter mailed within Iceland that was delivered to an address solely indicated by a map. The story went viral after having been posted on Reddit – and prompted other tales of improbable deliveries.



The Editors' Corner

Diane DeBlois & Robert Dalton Harris <agatherin@yahoo.com>

It was good to see so many of our members at World Stamp Show in New York, and we are very grateful to all who manned our shared society information booth – particularly Joe Geraci who volunteered for the most hours. Joe has, for over two decades, written hundreds of mini- and lengthy reviews of foreign postal history for the *Postal History Journal*. He wishes to remain a member of the Board of Directors, but is resigning as our Foreign Associate Editor. We are pleased to announce that Daniel Piazza, Curator of Philately at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, has volunteered for the position. Joe's fluency in Italian will, especially, be missed – and if anyone would like to receive the Italian journals and review them for us, that would be most welcome.

Articles in this issue reveal a variety of approaches to postal history.

David Stotter's piece on the World War II APOs of Casablanca is a 'classic' approach of a philatelist turning to covers, and finding in them corroboration of markings and mailing practice. His contribution comes to us as part of a welcome reciprocal agreement with our British counterparts.

David Frye's approach is similar – that is, he is writing from evidence found on covers – but his approach is the 'classic' census. Having gathered a great many pieces of evidence, he deduces what the rates were (during a period and for places not yet recorded).

Ralph Nafziger's overview of the Oregon centennial makes use of his collecting all the ephemera he could find – a process that then gives an understanding of the iconography and background of mail associated with the event.

The young philatelist, Alex Gill, works from researching the history of the Zone Improvement Plan to illustrating different aspects of "Mr. Zip" – as an introduction to a modern collecting area.

And, the indefatigable Canadian, Dale Speirs, continues to delve into postal geography – here, a Mormon outpost in the remote areas of Alberta.

Reviews in this issue highlight a useful 19th century item (that is widely available), *Rogers American Philatelic Blue Book*; not one but two new books chronicling U.S. postal history (it is particularly interesting that the Penguin Press commissioned such a popular history from Winifred Gallagher – now that the public is concerned about the future of the USPS they might read about the past?); a gorgeous representation of 500 years of European postal service in 50 documents; and the second volume in an Italian enterprise to document steamship sailings.

We want to thank both Art Groten and George McGowan for their service to the Board. And we welcome Fernanco Iglesias and Sandeep Jaiswal as our new Directors. We look forward to seeing them – and as many of you as possible – at Boxborough in May.

We'd like to emphasize that one of our Directors, Terry Hines, has experience editing work written by authors whose first language is not English. He has volunteered to assist us, and any such author, with future articles.

For reasons of printing economy, our text appears in 10-point size – and many of our readers find this a hardship. If anyone would like to also receive the journal electronically to render it more legible, let us know agatherin@yahoo.com

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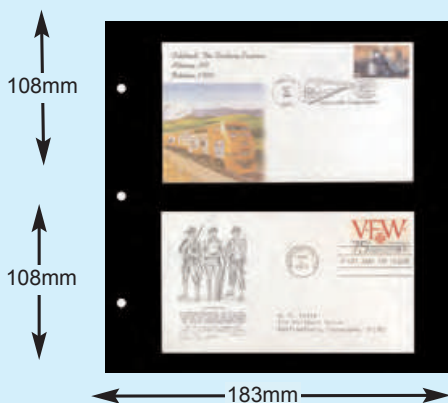
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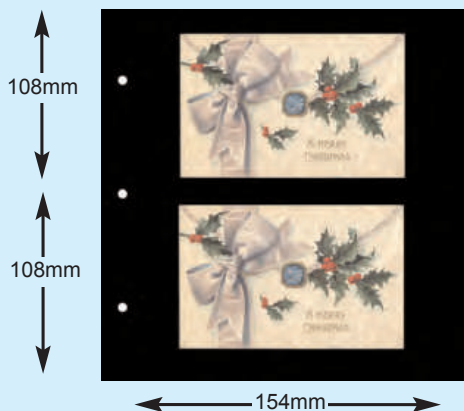
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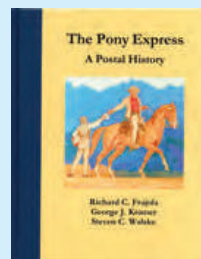


THE PONY EXPRESS:

A POSTAL HISTORY

By Richard C. Frajola,
Philatelic Foundation
Publisher: Philatelic
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ADD \$5/\$10 Per Parcel on high weight/low cost orders shipped to the 11 Western States & TX

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